

JOE MILLERS

JESTS

A certain poet and player, remarkable for his impudence and cowardice, happening many years ago to have a quarrel with Mr Powel, another player, received from him a smart box on the ear: a few days after, the poetical player having lost his snuff box, was making strict enquiry if any body had seen his box. *What,* said another of the theatrical Panslers. *That which George Powel gave you the other night!*

2. Mr H — — — — —, one of the commissioners of the revenue in *Ireland*, being one night in the Pit at the playhouse in *Dublin*. *Manaca Gaul*, the orange girl, famous for her wit and assurances, striding over his back, he popp'd his hands under her petticoats. *Nay, Mr Commissioner,* said she, *you'll find no goods there but what have been fairly enter'd.*

3. A certain country squire ask'd a merry *Andrew*, *Why he play'd the fool?* For the same reason, said he, that you do; *out of want; you do it for want of wit, I do it for want of money.*

4. When the Duke of *Ormond* was young, and came first to court, he happen'd to stand next to my Lady *Dorchester* one evening in the drawing room who being but little upon reserve on most occasions, let a fart; upon which he looked her full in the face, and laugh'd. *What's the matter, my Lord?* said she: *Oh! I heard it Madam,* reply'd the Duke. *You'll make a fine courtier, indeed,* said she, *if you mind every thing you hear in this place.*

5. A poor man, who had termagant wife, after a long dispute, in which she was resolved to

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have the last word, told her, if she spoke one crooked word more, he'd beat her brains out: *why then, rams horns, you Regue, said she if I die for it.*

6. A Gentleman ask'd a Lady at *Tunbridge*, who had made a very large acquaintance among the beaux and pretty fellows there, what she would do with them all? Oh! said she, they pass off like the waters; *And pray, Madam, reply'd the Gentleman, do they all pass the same way?*

7. *Gun Jones*, who had made a handsome fortune from a very mean beginning, happening to have some words with a person who had known him for some time, was ask'd by the other, How he could have the impudence to give himself so many airs to him, when he knew very well, that he remember'd him seven Years before, when he had hardly a rag to his a——. *You lye firrah,* reply'd Jones; *for seven years ago I had nothing but rags to my a——.*

8. A Gentleman told *Betty Careless* upon shewing her legs, that they were very handsome, and so much alike, that they must needs be *Twins*, But indeed, said she, you are mistaken, for I have had more than one or two *between them*.

9. A Lady seeing the Sheriff of a country, who was a very handsome young Gentleman, attending the Judge, who was an old man; a Gentleman, standing by, ask'd her which she lik'd best, the Judge or the Sheriff? The Lady told him, The Sheriff. Why so? said the Gentleman, *Because* answered she, *tho, I love judgment well, I love execution better.*

10. One told another who was not used to be clothed very often, that his new coat was too short for him; *That's true,* answered his friend, *but it will be long enough before I get another.*

11. A certain Lady, finding her husband somewhat too familiar with her chamber maid, turned her

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her away immediately; hully, said she, I have no occasion for such fluts as you, only to do that work which I chuse to do myself.

12. Altho' the infirmities of nature are not proper subjects to be made a jest of; yet when people take a great deal of pains to conceal what every body sees, there is nothing more ridiculous: Of this sort was old *Cross* the player, who being very deaf, did not care any body should know it. Honest *Joe Miller* going with a friend one day along *Fleet street*, and seeing old *Cross* on the other side of the way, told his acquaintance he should see some sport; so beckoning to *Cross* with his finger, and stretching open his mouth as wide as ever he could, as if he haloo'd to him, tho' he said nothing, the old fellow came puffing from the other side of the way, *What a pox* said he, *do you make such a noise for? Do you think one can't hear?*

13. Sir *William Davenant*, the Poet, who had no nose going along the *Meuse*, one day a beggar woman follow'd him, crying, Ah! God preserve your *eye sight*, Sir, the Lord preserve your *eye sight*. Why good woman, said he, dost thou pray so much for my *eye sight*? Ah! dear Sir answered the woman, if it should please God that you grow dim sighted, you have no place to hang your spectacles on.

14. A conceited fellow, who fancy'd himself a poet, ask'd *Nat Lee*, if it was not easy to write like a *Madman* as he did? No, answered *Nat*, but *it is easy to write like a fool as you do*.

15. Dr *Sewel*, and two or three more Gentlemen, walking towards *Hampstead*, on a summer's day, were met by the famous *Daniel Parcell*, the punster, who was very intimate with them to know upon what account they were going thither: The doctor merrily answered him, *To make hay*. Very well, replied the other, you'll be there at a very convenient season, the country wants *rakes*.

16. A Gentleman was saying one day at the Tilt-yard coffee-house, when it rained exceeding hard, that it put him in mind of the general deluge. Zoons, Sir, said an old compaigner, who stood by, ho's that? I have heard of all the *Generals* in Europe but him.

17. A traveller coming into the kitchen of an inn, in a very cold night, stood so close at the fire that he burnt his boots. An arch Rogue, who sat in the chimney-corner, cried out to him, Sir, you'll burn your spurs presently, *My boots you mean I suppose*, said the Gentleman: No, Sir, reply'd the other, *they are burnt already*.

18. A countryman sowing his ground, two smart fellows riding that way, one of them called to him with an insolent air: well, honest fellow, said he, 'tis your business to sow, but we reap the fruits of your labour. To which the countryman replied, *'Tis very likely you may, truly, for I am sowing hemp*.

19. Villiers, the witty and extravagant Duke of Buckingham in King Charles II'd's time, was saying one day to Sir Robert Viner, in a melancholic humour; I am afraid, Sir Robert, I shall die a beggar at last, which is the most terrible thing in the world: Upon my word, my Lord, said Sir Robert, there is another thing more terrible which you have reason to apprehend, and that is, *That you will live a beggar, at the rate you go on*.

20. The same noble Duke, another time, was making his complaint to Sir John Cutler a rich miser, of the disorder of his affairs, and ask'd him what he should do to prevent the ruin of his estate: *Live* I do, my Lord, said Sir John; *That I can do*, answered the Duke, *am ruined*.

21. At another time a person, who had been a dependent on his Grace, begg'd his interest for him at court; and to press the thing more home upon the Duke, said, *He had nobody to depend upon but God* bii

his Grace. Then, says the Duke, *you are in a miserable way, for you could not have pitched upon any two who have less interest at court.*

22. A Lady being ask'd how she liked a Gentleman's singing, who had a very stinking breath: *The words are good,* said she, *but the Air is intolerable.*

23. A pragmatrical young fellow, sitting at table over against the learned John Scot, ask'd him, What difference there was between Scot and *fo*? *Just the breadth of the table,* answered the other.

24. Sir Thomas More for a long time having only daughters, his wife prayed earnestly that they might have a boy; at last they had a boy, who, when he came to man's estate, proved but simple; *Thou pray'dst so long for a boy,* said Sir Thomas to his wife, *that at last thou hast got one, who will be a boy, as long as he lives.*

25. This famous Chancellor, who preserved his humour and wit to the last moment, when he came to be executed on Tower hill, the headsman demanded his upper garment as his fee; *Ah! friend,* said he, taking off his cap, *that I think is my upper garment.*

26. The great Algernoon Sidney seem'd to shew as little concern at his death; he had, indeed, got some friends to intercede with the King for a pardon; but when it was told him, that his Majesty could not be prevail'd upon to give him his life, but that, in regard to his ancient and noble family, he would remit part of his sentence, and only have his head cut off; *Not* said he, *if his Majesty is resolv'd to have my head, he may make a Whistle of my a— if he pleases.*

27. Lady C——g and her two daughters, having taken lodgings at a leather breeches maker's in Piccadilly, the sign of the rock and leather breeches, was always put to the blush, when she was oblig'd to give any body directions to her lodgings, the

the sign being so odd: upon which my Lady, a very good sort of woman, sending for her landlord a jolly young fellow, told him, she lik'd him and his lodgings very well, but must be forc'd to quit them on account of his sign; for she was ashamed to tell any body what it was. Oh dear Maddam! said the young fellow, I would do any thing rather than lose so good lodgers; I can easily alter my sign: So I think reply'd my Lady; and I'll tell you how you may both please me and my daughters; *Only take down your breeches, and let your cock stand.*

28. Henry the IVth of France reading an ostentatious inscription on the monument of a Spanish officer. *He lies the body of Don &c &c. who never knew what fear was.* Then said the King he never snuffed a candle with his fingers.

29. When Sir Richard Steel was fitting up his great room in York buildings, which he intended for publick orations, he happened at a time to be pretty much behind hand with his workmen; and coming one day among them, to see how they went forward, he ordered one of them to get into the *refstrum*, and make a speech, that he might observe how it could be heard: the fellow mounting, and scratching his pate, told him, he knew not what to say, for in truth he was no orator. Oh! said the Knight, no matter for that, speak any thing that comes uppermost. *Why here Sir Richard,* says the fellow, *we have been working for you these six weeks, and cannot get one penny of money. Pray Sir, when do you design to pay us?* Very well, very well, said Sir Richard, pray come down, I have heard enough, I cannot but own you speak very distinctly, though I don't admire your subject.

30. A country clergyman meeting a neighbour who never came to church altho' an old fellow of above sixty, he gave him some reproof on that account,

count, and ask'd him if he never read at home? No, replied the clown, I can't read: I dare say, said the parson, you don't know who made you? Not I, in troth, cry'd the countryman. A little boy coming by at the same time, who made you, child? said the parson. God, Sir, answered the boy; why look you there, quoth the honest clergyman, are not you ashamed to hear a child of five or six years old tell me who made him, when you, that are for old a man, cannot? *Aht* said the countryman, it is no wonder that he should remember; he was made but y'other day, it is a great while measter sin I was made.

31. A certain reverend drone in the country was complaining to another. That it was a great fatigue to preach twice a day. *Oh!* said the other. *I preach twice every Sunday and make nothing of it.*

32. One of the afore said levites, as was his custom, preaching most exceedingly dull to a congregation not used to him, many of them slunk out of the church, one after another, before the sermon was near ended. *Truly* said a Gentleman present *this learned doctor has made a very moving discourse.*

33. A certain senator, who is not, it may be, esteem'd the wisest man in the house, has a frequent custom of shaking his head, when another speaks; which giving offence to a particular person, he complained of the indignity shewn to him: but one who had been acquainted with the first Gentleman from a child, as he told the house, assured them, That it it was only an ill habit that he had got, *for tho he would shake his head, there was nothing in it.*

34. A French Marquis, being one day at dinner at the late Roger Williams's the famous punster and publican, was boasting of the happy genius of his nation, in projecting all the fine modes and fashions, particularly the ruffle, which, he said, *Was*
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de fine ornament to de hand, and had been followed by all de other nation. Roger allowed what he said, but observed at the same time, That the English, according to custom had made a great improvement upon their invention, by adding the shirt to it.

35. A young Gentleman playing at questions and commands with some very pretty young Ladies, was commanded to take off a garter from one of them; but she, as soon as he had laid hold of her petticoats, ran away into the next room, where was a bed: Now, Madam, said he, tripping up her heels, *I bar squeaking. Bar the door you fool, cry'd she.*

36. A very modest young Gentleman of the county of Tipperary, having attempted many ways in vain to acquire the affections of a Lady of great fortune, at last was resolved to try what could be done by the help of music, and therefore entertained her with a serenade under her window at midnight; but she ordered her servants to drive him thence by throwing stones at him: *Oh! my friend said one of his companions, your music is as powerful as that of Orpheus, for it draws the very stones about you.*

37. Some unlucky boys, the scholars of Dr. Bushy at Westminster, belmeared the stairs leading to the school with something that shall be nameless: the Doctor, as it was design'd belout'd his fingers very much in it; which to enrag'd him, that he cry'd out: He would give any boy half a crown, that would discover who had a hand in it: Upon which, an arch boy immediately told him, for that reward he would let him know who had a hand in it: Well, said the Doctor, I will certainly give you the half crown if you tell me the truth: *Why then,* answer'd the boy, *you had a hand in it, or it would not have been so best—*

38. A young Gentleman, of a very good family,

ly, who had only a pair of colours in the guards, had been for some time in vain soliciting for a company; 'till happening to be in a visit, where her late Grace of *Marl*— had met with an indelible disgrace, by accidentally breaking wind backwards, if our bold son of *Mars* had not, with great gallantry, taken the shame upon himself, and ask'd a thousand pardons for the pretended offence he had committed, which quite freed her from the least suspicion of it; Her Grace was so charmed with the presence of mind, and polite manner in which the young Ensign had brought her off, that she never let my Lord Duke rest, 'till he had given him the company he wanted; and upon delivering his commission to him, *You find Colonel*, said she, *it is an ill wind that blows nobody, any good.*

39. A very harmless *Irishman*, eating an apple-pye with some quinces in it? *Arrah now dear honey*, said he, *if a few of these quinces give such a flavour, how would an apple-pye taste made all of quinces?*

40. An *English Gentleman* ask'd Sir *Richard Steele*, who was an *Irishman*, What was the reason that his country-men were so remarkable for blundering, and making bulls? *Faith*, said the Knight, *I believe there is something in the air of Ireland; and I dare say, if an Englishman was born there he would do the same.*

41. A Gentleman, having lent a Guinea for two or three days to a person whose promises he had not much faith in, was very much surpris'd to find, that he very punctually kept his word with him; the same Gentleman being some time after desirous of borrowing a larger sum, *No*, said the other, *you have deceived me once, and I am resolv'd you shall not do it the second time.*

42. A country parson having divided his text under two and twenty heads; one of the congregation was getting out of the church in a great hurry

hurry: but a neighbour, pulling him by the sleeve ask'd him whether he was going? *home for my night cap*, answer'd the first; *for I find we are to stay here all night.*

43. Old *Denis*, who had been the Author of many plays, going by a *brandy shop* in *St Paul's church yard*; the man who kept it came out to him, and desired the favour of him to drink a Dram. For what reason? said he. Because you are a *Dramatick Poet*, answered the other. Well, thou art an out of the way Fellow said the old Gentleman, and I will drink a dram with thee: But when he had so done, the man ask'd him to pay for it: 'Sdeath, Sir, said the bard, did you not ask me to drink a dram, because I was a *Dramatick Poet*? Yes, Sir, reply'd the fellow, *but I did not think you had been a Dram o'tick Poet.*

44. *Daniel Purcel*, the famous punster, and a friend of his, meeting, and having a desire to drink a glass of wine together, upon the 30th of *January*, King *Charles's* martyrdom, they went to the *Salutation Tavern* upon *Holburn hill*, and finding the door shut, they knock'd at it, but it was not open'd to them, only one of the drawers look'd through a little wicket, and ask'd, What they would please to have? Why, open your door, said *Daniel*, and draw us a pint of wine; The drawer said, his master would not allow of it that day, for it was a *fast D—mn* your master, reply'd he, *for a precise Coxcomb, is he not contented to fast himself, but he must make his doors fast too?*

45. The same Gentleman, as he had the character of a great punster, was desired one night in company by a Gentleman, to make a *pun extempore*. Upon what subject? said *Daniel*. The King, answered the other. Oh Sir, said he, *the King is no Subject.*

46. An *Irish* lawyer of the *Temple*, having occasion to go to dinner, left the directions in his
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key hole, *Go to the Elephant and Castle, where you shall find me; and if you can't read this, carry it to the stationers, and he shall read it for you.*

47. The same gentleman had a client of his own country who was a sailor, and having been at sea for some time, his wife was married again in his absence, so he was resolved to prosecute her; and coming to advise with the counsellor, told him, he must have witnesses to prove that he was alive when his wife married again. Arrah, by my shoul, but that shall be impossible, said the other; for my shipmates are all gone to sea again, upon a long voyage, and shan't return this twelve month. *Oh then,* answered the counsellor, *there can be nothing done about it; and what a pity it is that such a brave cause, could be lost now, only because you cannot prove yourself to be alive.*

48. Poor Joe Miller happening one day to be caught by one of his friends in a very familiar posture with a cook wench, who was exceeding ugly, was pretty much rallied by them for the oddness of his fancy. Why, look ye, gentlemen, said he, altho' I am not a very young fellow, I have a good constitution, and am not I thank heaven, reduc'd yet either to beauty or brandy to whet my appetite.

49. Mr Congreve going up the water in a boat, one of the watermen told him, as they pass'd by Peterborough house, at Mill-bank, that at that house had sunk a story. *No friend,* says he, *I rather believe it is a story raised.*

50. Swin, the famous punster of Cambridge, being a nonjuror, upon which account he had lost his fellowship, as he was going along the Strand, in the beginning of king William's reign, on a very fine day, a hackney coachman called to him, Sir, won't you please to take a coach, it rains hard? *A friend,* said he, *but this is no rain (reign) for me to take coach in.*

51. When Oliver first coined his money, an old

cavalier looking upon one of the new pieces, read this inscription on one side, *God with us*; on the other, *The common-wealth of England*. I see, said he, God and the common wealth are on different sides.

52. Colonel Bond, who had been one of King Charles the first's judges, died a day or two before Oliver, and it was strongly reported every where that Cromwell was dead: No, said a gentleman who knew better, *he has only given bond to the devil for his further appearance*.

53. My Lord Stangford, who stammer'd very much, was telling a certain bishop that sat at his table, that Balaam's ass spoke, because he was prie——est——priest-rid. Sir said a valet de chambre, who stood behind the chair, my lord, would say. No friend, replied the bishop, Balaam could not speak himself, and so his ass spoke for him.

54. The same noble lord ask'd a clergyman once at the bottom of his table, why the goose if there was one, was always placed next to the parson? Really, said he, I can give no reason for it; but your question is so odd, that I shall never see a goose, for the future, without thinking of your lordship.

55. Colonel ——, who made the fine fireworks in St James's Square, upon the peace of Ryswick being in company with some ladies, was highly commending the epitaph just then set up in the obelisk on Mr Purcell's monument.

He is gone to that place, where only his own harmony can be exceeded.

Lord, Colonel, said one of the ladies, the same epitaph might serve for you, by altering one word only.

He is gone to that place, where only his own fireworks can be exceeded.

56. After the fire of London, there was an act of parliament to regulate the buildings of the city; every house was to be *three stories* high, and there were to be no balconies backwards; a Gloucestershire gentleman, a man of great wit and humour, just after this act passed, going along the street, and seeing a little crooked gentlewoman on the other side of the way, he runs over to her in great haste; Lord, madam, said he, how dare you walk thus publicly in the streets? Walk publicly in the streets! and why not, pray sir? answered the little woman, *Because*, said he, *you are built directly contrary to an act of parliament; you are but two stories high, and your balcony hangs over your house of office.*

57. One Mr Topham was so very tall, that if he was now living, when people are so fond of shows, he might have made a very good one; this gentleman going one day to enquire for a countryman, a little way out of town, when he came to the house, he looked in at a little window over the door, and asked the woman who sat by the fire, If her husband was at home? *No, Sir*, said she, *but if you please to alight, and come in, I'll go and call him.*

58. The same gentleman walking a cross Covent-Garden, was asked by a beggar woman for a half-penny or farthing: but finding he would not part with his money, she begged for Christ's sake, he would give her one of his old shoes. He was very desirous to know what she could do with one shoe; *To make my child a cradle, Sir*, said she.

59. King Charles II. having ordered a new suit of cloaths to be made, just at a time when addresses were coming up to him from all parts of the kingdom. Tom Killigrew went to the taylor, and ordered him to make a very large pocket on one

side of the coat, and one so small on the other that the king could hardly get his hand into it; which seeming very odd, when they were brought home the king asked the meaning of it; the taylor said *Mr Killigrew* ordered it so. *Killigrew* being sent for, and interrogated, said *One pocket was for the addressee of his majesty's subjects, the other for the money they would give him.*

60. *Tom B——*—*n——*—*t* happening to be at dinner at my Lord mayor's, in the latter part of *Queen Anne's* reign, after two or three healths the ministry was toasted, but when it came to *Tom's* turn to drink, he diverted it for some time, by telling a story to the person who sat next him: the chief magistrate of the city, not seeing his toast go round, called out, Gentlemen where sticks the ministry? *nothing*, by *G——d*, says *Tom*, and so drank off his glass.

61. *My lord Craven*, in king *James* the first's reign, was very desirous to see *Ben Johnson*, which being told to *Ben*, he went to my lord's house; but being in a very tattered condition, as poets sometimes are, the porter refused him admittance with some saucy language, which the other did not fail to return. *My lord*, happening to come over while they were wrangling, ask'd the occasion of it? *Ben*, who stood in need of nobody to speak for him, said, He understood his lordship desired to see him. You friend, said my lord, who are you? *Ben Johnson*, replied the other; no, no, quoth my lord, you cannot be *Ben Johnson* who wrote the *Silent Woman*; you look as if you could not fall to a goose; *ho*, cried *Ben*. Very well, said my lord, who was better pleased at the joke than offended at the affront; I am now convinced, by your wit, you are *Ben Johnson*.

62. *Dr Tadloe*, who was a man of an enormous size, happening to go *thump, thump*, with his great legs through a street in *Oxford*, where the pavement

ers were at work in the middle of July, the fellows immediately laid down their rammers. *Ab!* said bless you, Master cries one of them, it was very kind of you to come this way, it saves us a great deal of trouble this hot weather.

62. *C—s—B—*, who though he is very rich remarkable for his sordid covetousness, told *Lib—* one night in the green room, that he was going out of town, and was sorry to part with him, for *Lib—* had loved him. *Ab!* said Colley, I wish I was skilful for your sake; Why so, said the other? because then, cried the Laureat, I should be sure you loved me.

64. Mr Sergeant *G—d—r*, being lame of one leg, and pleading before the late judge Fortelque, who had little or no *noſe*, the judge told him, He was afraid he had but a lame cause of it. Oh! my lord, said the Sergeant, have but a little patience, and I'll warrant I prove every thing as plain as the nose on your face.

65. A certain Roman Catholic Lord having renounced the *Papiſh* religion, was asked not long after, by a protestant peer, Whether the ministers of state or the ministers of the gospel had the greatest share in his conversion? To which he replied, That when he renounced popery, he had also renounced auricular confession.

66. *Michael Angelo* in his picture of the last judgment in the pope's chapel, painted among the figures in hell that of a certain cardinal, who was his enemy, so like, that every body knew it at first sight; whereupon the cardinal complaining to pope Clement the VIIIth of the affront, and desiring it might be defaced; You know very well, said the pope; I have power to deliver a soul out of Purgatory, but not out of hell.

67. A certain author was telling *George Sewal*, that at a passage he found fault with in his poem, might be justified, and that he thought it a metaphor;

phor: It is such a one then, *said the doctor*, as truly I never met a fore.

68. Two Oxford scholars meeting on the road with a Yorkshire ostler, they fell to bantering him, and told the fellow. That they would prove him to be a horse or an ass. Well, said the ostler, and I can prove your saddle to be a mule. A mule! cried one of them, how can that be? *Because*, said the ostler, *it is something between a horse and an ass.*

69. The chaplain's boy of a man of war, being sent out of his own ship, of an errand to another, the two boys were conferring notes about their manner of living. How often said one, do you go to prayers now? Why, answered the other in case of a storm, or the apprehension of any danger from the enemy: Ay, said the first, there's some sense in that; but my master makes us go to prayers when there is no more occasion for it, than for my leaping over-board.

70. Not much unlike this story is one a midshipman told one night, in company with my dear friend Joe Miller and myself; who said that being once in great danger at sea, every body was observed to be upon their knees but one man, who being called upon to come with the rest to prayers; *Not I*, said he, *it is your business to take care of the ship, I'm but a passenger.*

71. A certain lady at Whitehall, of great quality, but very little modesty, having sent for a linen draper to bring her some Hollands; as soon as the young fellow entered the room, *Oh, Sir!* said she, *I find you a man fit for business, for you no sooner look a lady in the face, but you've the yard in one hand, and are lifting up the linen with the other.*

72. A country farmer going across his ground in the dusk of the evening, espy'd a young fellow and a lass very busy near a five bar gate, in one of his fields, and calling to them to know what they

truly were about; said the young man, *No harm farmer, we are only going to prop a gste.*

73. King Henry VIIIth. designing to send a nobleman on an embassy to Francis I. at a very dangerous juncture, he begged to be excused, saying, such a threatening message to so hot a prince as Francis I. might go near to cost him his life. Fear not, said old Harry, if the French king should offer to take away your life, I would revenge you by taking off the heads of many Frenchmen now in my power. *But of all these heads, replied the nobleman, there may not be one to fit my shoulders.*

74. A Prince laughing at one of his courtiers, whom he had employed in several embassies, told him, He look'd like an owl. *I know not,* answered the courtier, *what I look like; but this I know that I have had the honour several times, to represent your majesty's person.*

75. A country fellow, who was just come up to London, gaping about in every shop he came to, at last look'd in to a scrivener's where seeing only one man sitting at a desk, he could not imagine what commodity was sold there; but calling to the clerk, Pray Sir, said he, what do you sell here? *Loggerheads,* cried the other. *Do you,* answered the countryman, *Egad then you've a special trade, for I see you have but one left.*

76. *Manners*, who was himself but lately made Earl of Rutland, told Sir Thomas More, He was too much elated by his preferment; that he verified the old proverb,

Honores mutant Mores.

No, my lord, said Sir Thomas, the pun will do much better in *English*,

Honours change MANNERS.

77. A poor dirty shoe boy going into a church one Sunday evening, and seeing the parish boys standing in a row upon a bench to be catechized, he gets up himself, and stands in the very first place, so the parson of course beginning with him asked him, *What is your name?* Rugged and tough, answered he; *Who gave you that name?* says Domine, *Why, the boys in our alley,* replied poor Rugged and tough, *the Lord d—mn them.*

78. A Mayor of Yarmouth, in ancient times, being by his office a justice of the peace, and one who was willing to dispense the laws wisely, though he could hardly read, got him the statute book, where finding a law against *frying a beacon*, or causing any *beacon* to be fired, after nine of the clock at night; the poor man read it *frying bacon*, or causing any *bacon* to be *fry'd*; and accordingly went out the next night upon the scent, and being directed by his nose to the carrier's house, he found the man and his wife both *frying bacon*; the husband holding the pan while the wife turned it; being thus caught in the fact, and having nothing to say for themselves, his Worship committed them both to jail, without bail or mainprize.

79. A witty knave coming into a lace shop upon *Ludgate hill*, said, He had occasion for a small quantity of very fine lace, and having pitched upon that he liked, asked the woman of the shop, how much she would have for as much as would reach from one of his ears to the other, and measure which way she pleased, either over his head, or under his chin; after some words they agreed, and he paid the money down, and began to measure, saying, One of my ears is here, and the other is nailed to the pillory in Bristol, therefore I fear you have not enough to make good your bargain: however I will take this piece in part, and desire you will provide the rest with all expedition.

80. A prodigal gallant, whose penurious mother being lately dead, and had left him a plentiful estate, one day being upon his frolics, quarrelled with his coachman, and said, You damn'd son of a whore, I'll kick you into hell. *Will you,* replied the coachman, *then when I come there, I'll tell your mother how extravagantly you are spending your estate upon earth.*

81. A beggar asking alms under the name of a poor scholar, a gentleman to whom he apply'd himself, asked him a question in *Latin*. The fellow shaking his head, said he did not understand him. Why, said the gentleman, did not you say you were a poor scholar? Yes, reply'd the other, *a poor one indeed Sir, for I do not understand one word of Latin.*

82. A lady's age happening to be questioned, she affirmed she was but *Forty*, and called upon a gentleman, who was in company for his opinion; Cousin, said she, do you believe I am in the right, when I say I am but forty? I am sure, Madam, reply'd he, I ought not to dispute it; for I have constantly heard you say so, for above these ten years.

83. It being prov'd on a trial at Guild hall, that a man's name was really *Inch*, who pretended it was *Linch*: I see, said the Judge, the old proverb is verified in this man, who *being allowed an Inch was taken an L.*

84. A lady coming into a room hastily; with her mantua brush'd down a Cremona fiddle, that lay on a chair, and broke it; upon which a gentleman that was present, burst into this acclamation from *Virgil*.

Mantua vix misera nimium vicina Cremona,

Ah! miserable Mantua, too near a neighbour to Cremona.

85. A

85. A modest young gentlewoman being compelled by her mother to accuse her husband of insufficiency, and being in the court, she humbly desired of the Judge, that she might write her mind, and not be obliged to speak it, for modesty's sake; the judge gave her that liberty, and the clerk was immediately ordered to give her pen, ink, and paper, whereupon she took the pen without dipping it into the ink, and made as if she would write. Says the clerk to her, Madam, there's no ink in your pen. Truly, Sir, says she, that is just my case, and therefore I need not explain myself any further.

86. A Lieutenant Colonel to one of the Irish regiments in the French service, being dispatched by the Duke of Berwick, from Fort Keil, to the King of France, with a complaint relating to some irregularities that had happened in the regiment, his majesty with some emotion of mind, told him that the Irish troops gave him more uneasiness than all his forces besides. Sir, says the officer, all your majesty's enemies make the same complaint.

87. Mr G——n the surgeon, being sent for to a gentleman who had just received a slight wound in a rencounter, gave orders to his servant to go home with all haste imaginable, and fetch a certain plaster; the patient turning a little pale, and saying he, I hope there is no danger? Yes indeed, answered the surgeon, for if the fellow does not set up a good pair of heels, the wound will heal before he returns.

88. Not many years ago, a certain temporal peer having in a most pathetic and elegant speech, exposed the vices and irregularities of the clergy, and vindicated the gentlemen of the army from some imputations unjustly thrown upon them; a Prelate irritated at the nature, as well as the length of the speech, desired to know when the noble lord

would

ould give over preaching? The other answered,
he very day he was made a bishop.

89. It chanced that a merchant was so violently
 lashed in a storm at sea, that all despairing of safe-
 ty, betook themselves to prayer, saving one mari-
 ner, who was ever wishing to see two stars; O! said
 he, that I could see two stars, or but one of the
 two; and of these words he made so frequent repe-
 tion, that disturbing the meditations of the rest,
 at length one ask'd him, What two stars, or what
 one star he meant? To whom he replied *O! that*
I could but see the star in Cheap-side, or the star at Colo-
an-street, I care not which.

90. A young fellow in the country, after having
 an affair with a girl in the neighbourhood, cried,
 What shall we do Bess, if you prove with child?
 I very well, said she, *for I'm to be married to-mor-*
row.

91. A gentleman in the country having the mis-
 fortune to have his wife hang herself on an apple-
 tree; a neighbour of his came to him, and begged
 he would give him a cynon of that tree that he
 might graft it upon one in his own orchard: *For*
he knows, said he, *but it may bear the same fruit.*

92. A gentlewoman who thought her servants
 always cheated her when they went to Billingsgate
 to buy fish, was resolved to go thither one day
 herself, and asking the price of some fish, which
 she thought too dear, she bid the fish wife about
 half what she asked. Lord, madam, said the wo-
 man, I must have stole it to sell it at that price; but
 you shall have it, if you will tell me what you do to
 make your hands look so white. Nothing, good
 woman, answered the gentlewoman, but wear dog-
 skin gloves. D——mn you for a lying b——h, re-
 plied another, for my husband has worn dog skin
 breeches these ten years, and his a—— is as brown
 as a nutmeg.

93. Dr Heylin a noted author, especially for his Cosmography, happening one day to lose his way going to Oxford, in the forest of Whichwood, being then attended by one of his brother's men, the man earnestly entreated him to lead the way; but the doctor telling him he did not know it; How! said the fellow, that's very strange, that you who have made a book of the whole world, cannot find the way of this little wood.

94. A melting sermon being preached in a country church, all fell a weeping but one man, who being ask'd, why he did not weep with the rest? Oh! said he, I belong to another parish.

95. A gentlewoman growing big with child, who had two gallants, one of them with a wooden leg, the question was put which of the two should father the child. He who had the wooden leg offered to decide it thus; If the child, says he, comes into the world with a wooden leg, I will father it, if not, it must be yours.

96. A gentleman who had been out a shooting, brought home a small bird with him, and having an Irish servant, he ask'd him, if he had shot that little bird? Yes, he told him. Arrah! by my shoul honey, replied the Irishman, it was not worth powder and shot; for this little thing would have died in the fall.

97. The same Irishman being at a tavern where the cook was dressing some carp, he observed that some of the fish moved after they were gutted and put into the pan, which very much surpris'd teague. Well now, faith, said he, of all the christian creatures that ever I saw, this same carp will live the longest after its dead.

98. A gentleman happening to turn up against a house to make water, did not see two young ladies looking out of a window close by, until he heard them gigling; then looking towards them he asked, What made them so merry? O! Lord,

did one of them, a very little thing will make us
ugh.

102. A young fellow riding down a steep hill, and
poubling the foot of it was boggish, called out to
clown that was ditching, and ask'd him if it was
hard at the bottom. Ay, answered the country-
man, it is hard enough at the bottom I'll warrant
you: but in half a dozen steps the horse sunk up to
the saddle skirts, which made the young gallant whip
four, curse, and swear. Why thou whore son raf-
ai, said he to the ditcher, didst thou not tell me it
was hard at the bottom? Ay, replied the other, but
you are not half way to the bottom yet.

103. It was said of one that remember'd ev'ry thing
that he lent, but nothing that he borrowed, *that he*
had lost half of his memory.

104. An Englishman and a Welchman disputing
in whose country was the best living: said the Welch-
man, there is such noble house-keeping in Wales,
that I have known above a dozen cooks employed
at one wedding dinner. Ay, answered the Eng lish-
man, *that was because every man toasted his own*
beefse.

105. The late Sir Godfrey Kneller had always a
great contempt, I will not pretend to say how just-
ly, for Jervais the painter; and being one day a-
bout twenty miles from London one of his servants
told him at dinner, that there was Mr Jervais come
that day into the same town with a coach and four.
Ay, said Sir Godfrey, *if his horses draw no better*
than himself, I am afraid they'll never carry him to
town again.

106. A Gentleman ask'd Nanny Rochford, Why
the Whigs in their mourning for Queen Anne, wore
all silk stockings? *Because,* said she, *the Tories were*
worried.

107. The famous Tom Thyme, who was vere
markable for his good house keeping and hospitali-
ty, standing one day at his gate in the country, a
C
beggar

beggar coming up to him, cry'd, he begg'd his Worship would give him a mug of his small beer. *Why, how now, said he, what times are these, when beggars must be choosers!* I say, bring this fellow a mug of strong beer.

107. It was said of a person, who always eat at other people's tables, and was a great railer, *That he never open'd his mouth but to somebody's cost.*

108. A gentleman speaking of his servant, said, I believe I command more than any man; for before my servant will obey me in any thing, I must command him ten times over.

109. A poor fellow who was carrying to execution, had a reprieve just as he came to the gallows & was carried back by a sherriff's officer, who told him, He was a happy fellow, and ask'd him, if he knew nothing of the reprieve before hand? *No,* replied the fellow, *nor thought any more of it than I did of my dying day.*

110. A Spanish lady reading in a French romance, a long conversation betwixt two lovers; What a deal of wit, *said she,* is here thrown away, when two lovers are got together by themselves, and no body by.

111. Two very honest gentlemen, who dealt in brooms, meeting one day in the street, one asked the other, How the devil he could afford to undersell him every where as he did when he stole the stuff, and made the brooms himself? *Why, you silly dog,* answered the other, *I steal them ready made.*

112. An Irishman admiring the stately Fabric of St Paul's, ask'd, *Whether it was made in England, or brought from beyond sea?*

113. A Lady who had generally a pretty many intrigues upon her hands, not liking her Brother's extravagant passion for play, ask'd him, When he designed to leave of gaming? When you cease loving, said he. *Then,* replied the lady, *you are like to continue a gamester as long as you live.*

114. The *Trojans* sending ambassadors to condole with *Tiberius*, upon the death of his father in law *Augustus*, it was so long after, that the Emperor hardly thought it a compliment; but told them he was likewise sorry, that they had lost so valiant a knight as *Hector*, who was slain above a thousand years before.

115. A *braggadocio* chancing upon an occasion to run away full speed, was ask'd by one, What was become of that courage he used so much to talk of? *It is got*, said he; *all into my heels*.

116. A profligate young nobleman, being in company with some sober people, desired leave to toast the devil. The Gentleman who sat next to him, said, *He had no objection to any of his Lordship's notions*.

117. A gentleman said of a young wench, who constantly plied about the *Temple*, that if she had as much law in her head, as in her tail, she would be one of the ablest *counsel* in England.

118. Some gentlemen going into a bawdy house near by at *Charing Cross*, found great fault with the wine, and sending for the master of the house, told him it was sad stuff, and very weak. *It may be so*, said he, *for my trade don't depend upon the strength of my wine, but on that of my tables and chairs*.

119. The late colonel *Chartrés* reflecting on his life and character, told a certain nobleman, That such a thing as a good name was to be purchased, he would freely give 10,000 pound for one. The nobleman said, it would certainly be the worst money he ever laid out in his life. Why so, said the honest colonel? *Because*, answered the lord, *you would lose it again, in less than a week*.

120. A needy, poor, half pay captain, who was much given to blabbing every thing he heard, was told, there was but one secret in the world he could keep, and that was *where he lodg'd*.

121. A certain lady of quality, sending her Irish footman to fetch home a pair of new stays, strictly charged him take a coach if it rained, for fear of wetting them; but a great shower of rain falling the fellow returned with the stays dropping wet; being severely reprimanded for not doing as he was ordered, he said, he had obeyed his orders. How then, answered the lady, cou'd the stays be wet, if you took them into the coach with you? No, he replied honest Teague, *I know my place better. I did not go into the coach, but rode behind, as I always use to do.*

122. Tom Warner, the late publisher of news papers and pamphlets, being very near his end, a gentlewoman in the neighbourhood sending her maid to enquire how he did, he bid the girl tell her mistress, That he hop'd he was going to the *New Jerusalem*. Ay, dear Sir, said she, *I dare say the air of Billington would do you more good.*

123. A person said, The *English* were certainly the best trained up for soldiers of any people in the world; for they began to *band'e their arms* almost as soon as they were born.

124. A woman once prosecuted a gentleman for a rape; upon the trial the judge asked if she made any resistance? I cry'd out, an please you, my lord. Ay, said one of the witnesses, *but that was nine months after.*

125. A young lady, who had been married but a short time, seeing her husband going to rise pretty early in the morning, said, What my dear, are you getting up already? Pray lie a little longer, and rest yourself. No my dear, replied the husband, *I'll get up, and rest myself.*

126. A *Westminster* Justice taking coach in the evening and being set down at Young Man's coffee house *Charing Cross*, the driver demanded eighteen pence as his fare. The justice ask'd him, if he would serve

at the ground came to the money. The man said
would take his oath on't. The Justice replied
Send I am a magister; and pulling the book out
his pocket, administered the oath, and then gave
the fellow his sixpence, saying, He must reserve the
thing to himself for the affidavit.

27. The late earl of S——— kept an *Irish*
sportman, who perhaps, was as expert in making
his as the most learned of his countrymen. My
lord having sent him one day with a present to a
certain judge, the judge in return, sent my Lord
a dozen live partridges with a letter; the par-
tridges fluttering in the basket upon reague's back,
when he was carrying them home, he set down the bas-
ket, and opened the lid of it to quiet them, where-
on they all flew away: Oh! the devil burn ye,
said he, I am glad you are gone; but when he came
home, and my lord had read the letter: Why
reague, said my lord, I find there are half a doz-
en partridges in the letter; Now, arrah, dear ho-
nour, said reague, I am glad you have found them
in the letter, for they are all lost out of the bas-

28. A drunken fellow carrying his wife's Bible
up pawn for a quartern of gin to the alehouse, the
owner of the house refused to take it. What a pox,
said the fellow, will neither my own word, nor the
word of God pass with you?

29 The Lord N——th and G——y, when the
lady the actress was young and handsome, used
to dangle after her; and one night being behind the
curtains, standing with his arms folded in the post-
ure of a desponding lover, ask'd her, with a sigh:
What was a cure for love? Your Lordship, said
the best in the world.

30. A young fellow praising his mistress before a
very amorous acquaintance of his, after having run
over most of her charms, he came at length to her

majestic gait, fine air, and delicate slender waist. Hold, says his friend, go no lower if you love me. But by your leave, says the other, I hope to go lower, if she loves me.

131. The old Lord Strangford taking a bottle with the parson of the parish, was commending his own wine: Here, Doctor, said he, I can send a couple of ho ho hounds to Fra Fra France (for his Lordship had a great impediment in his speech) and have a ho ho hogs head of wine for them; what do you say to that, Doctor? Why, replied he, I say that your Lordship has your wine *dog cheap*.

132. The famous Sir George Rooke when he was a captain of marines, was quartered at a village where he buried a pretty many of his men; at length the parson refused to perform the ceremony of their interment any more, unless he was paid for it, which being told captain Rooke, he ordered five men of his company to carry the corpse of the soldier then dead, and lay him upon the parson's hall table. This so embarrassed the priest, that he sent the captain word, if he would fetch the man away, he would bury him and all his company for nothing.

133. A reverend and charitable divine, for the benefit of the country where he resided, caused a large causeway to be begun; and as he was one day overlooking the work, a certain nobleman came by. Well, Doctor, said he, for all your great pains and charity, I don't take this to be the high way to heaven. Very true, my Lord, replied the Doctor, if it had, I should have wonder'd to have met your Lordship here.

134. A Welchman and an Englishman 'vapoured' one day at the fruitfulness of their countries, the Englishman said, there was a close near the town where he was born, which was so very fertile, that if a *kibos* was thrown in over night, it would be

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33

covered with grass that it should be difficult to find it the next day. *Sp'nt*, says the Welshman, *what's that?* *There's a close where he was born, where you may put your horse in over night, and not be able to find him next morning.*

134. A country fellow in king Charles the second's time, selling his load of hay in the Haymarket, two gentlemen who came out of the *Blue posts*, were talking of affairs; one said, that things did not go right, the king had been at the house, and prorogued the parliament. The countryman coming home, was asked, What news in London? *My* *lord's* heart, said he, *there's something to do there; the king has, it seems, berogued the Parliament badly.*

135. A wild young gentleman having married a very discreet, virtuous, young lady, the better to reclaim him, she caused it to be given out, at his return from his travels, that she was dead, and had been buried; in the mean time, she had to place herself in disguise, as to be able to observe how he took the news; and finding him still the same gay, inconstant man, he always had been, she appeared to him as the ghost of herself, at which he seemed not at all dismayed; at length disclosing herself to him, he then appeared pretty much surprized; a person who stood by, said, Why Sir, you seem more afraid now than before. *Ay*, replied he, *most men are more afraid of a living wife than of a dead one.*

136. An under officer of the customs at the port of Liverpool, running heedlessly along the ship's gunnel, happened to tip overboard and was drown'd; being soon after taken up, the coroner's jury was summoned to sit upon the body: one of the jurymen returning home, was called to by an alderman of the town. and ask'd what verdict they brought in, and whether they found it *Felo de se*? *Ay, ay*, says the jurymen, *thaking his noddle, he fell into the sea more enough.*

137. Two

137. Two brothers coming once to be executed for some enormous crime, the eldest was turned off first, without speaking one word: the other mounting the ladder began to harangue the crowd whose ears were attentively open to hear him, expecting some confession from him. Good people, says he, my brother hangs before my face, and you see what a lamentable spectacle he makes; in a few moments I shall be turned off too, and then you will see a pair of spectacles.

138. It was an usual saying of king Charles II. that sailors got their money like horses, and spent it like asses. The following story is somewhat an instance of it; one sailor coming to see another on pay day, desired to borrow twenty shilling of him. The monied man fell to telling out the sum in shillings, but a half crown thrusting its head in, paid him out, and he began to tell again; but then an impertinent crown piece was as officious as his half brother had been, and again interrupted the tale; so that taking up a handful of silver, he cry'd, Here Jack, give me a handful when your ship's paid, what a pair of horses counts it?

139. A young gentleman, who had married a very wild spark, that had run through a plentiful fortune, and was reduced to some straits, was innocently laying to him one day, My dear, I want some shifts sadly. D———me Madam, replied he, how can that be, when we make so many every day?

140. A fellow once standing on the pillory at Temple bar, it occasioned a stop, so that a carman with a load of cheeses, had much ado to pass; and driving just up to the pillory, he ask'd What that was that was wrote over the persons head; they told him it was a paper to signify his crime, that he stood there for forgery. Ay, said he, What is forgery? they answered him, That forgery was counterfeiting another's

another's hand, with an intent to cheat people; to which the carman replied, looking up at the offender, *Oh, pox, this comes of your reading and writing, a silly d-d.*

This joke, as well as several others, in this our imitable, and we may say, justly admired collection, Dr Grey has done us the honour to quote in his notes on his late edition of *Hudibras*, which certainly shews that gentleman to be a man of great reading, and to know perfectly well, how to make choice of well cultivated authors.

141. When the Prince of Orange came over at the time of the revolution, five of the seven bishops who were sent to the *Tower* declared for his Highness, but the two others would not come into measures; upon which, Dr Dryden said, *That the seven golden candlesticks were sent to be assayed in the Tower, and five of them proved to be Prince's metal.*

142. King Charles II. being in company with the Lord Rochester, and others of the nobility, who had been drinking the best part of the night, Killigrew came in. Now, says the king, we shall hear of our faults; *No, faith,* says Killigrew, *I don't care to trouble my head with that, which all the town talks of.*

143. A rich old miser finding himself very ill, sent for a parson to administer the last consolation of the church to him; whilst the ceremony was performing, old Gripewell falls into a fit; on his recovery, the doctor offered the chalice to him. *Indeed,* cries he, *I can't afford to lend you above twenty shillings upon't, I can't upon my word.*

144. One who had been a very termagant wife, lying on her death-bed, desired her husband, that she had brought him a fortune, she might have liberty to make her will, for bestowing a few legacies to her relations. *No by G——d, Madam,* says he, *you have had your will all your life time, and now you will have mine.*

145. When

145. When the lord Jefferies, before he was put
was pleading at the bar once, a country fellow
ing evidence against his client, pushed the man
very home on the side he swore of. Jefferies at
his usual way, called out to the fellow, Hark ye
you fellow in the leather doublet, what have ye
for swearing? To which the countryman (smiling)
replied, *Faith, Sir, if you had no more for lying than
I have for swearing, you might e'en wear a leather
doublet too.*

146. The same Jefferies afterwards on the bench
told an old fellow with a long beard, that he sup-
posed he had a conscience as long as his beard. *Is
your Lordship,* replied the old man, *measure consci-
ences by beards? If so, your lordship has no conscience
at all.*

147. *Apelles*, the famous painter, having drawn
the picture of *Alexander the Great* on horieback
brought it, and presented it to the Prince; but
not bestowing that praise on it which so excellent
piece deserved, *Apelles* desired a living horse might
be brought; who, moved by nature, fell a prancing
and neighing, as tho' it had been actually a living
creature of the same species; whereupon *Apelles*
told *Alexander*, *That his horse understood painting
better than himself.*

148. An old gentleman, who had married a fine
young Lady, being terribly afraid of cuckoldom
took her to task one day, and asked her if she had
considered what a crying sin it was in a woman to
cuckold her husband? *Lord, my dear,* said she,
what do you mean? I never had such a thing in
my head, nor never will. *No, no,* replied he,
*shall have it in my head, you will have it somewhere
else.*

149. A certain lady to excuse herself for a frailty
she had lately fallen into, said to an intimate
friend of hers, *Lord! how is it possible for a woman*

her cabinet unpacked, when every fellow has got
y to it.

30. Mr Dryden once at dinner, being offer'd by
dy the rump of a fowl, and refusing it. the La-
aid, Pray Mr Dryden, take it, the rump is the
part of the fowl. *Yes Madam*, said he, and so
ink it is of the fair.

31. An amorous young fellow making very warm
esses to a married woman. Pray Sir, be quiet,
she, have a husband that won't thank you for
ing him a cuckold. *No Madam*, replied he, but
will I hope.

32. A vigorous young officer, who made love
widow, coming a little unawares upon her once
ht her fast in his arms. Hey-dey, said she what
ou fight after the French way, take towns be-
you declare war : No faith, Widow, said he,
I shall be glad to imitate them so far as to be in
middle of the country before you could resist

33. A wild gentleman having picked up his own
in disguise for a mistress : the man to keep his
er in countenance, got to bed to the maid too.
he morning when the affair was discovered, the
w was obliged, in atonement for his offence,
ake the girl amends by marrying her. Well,
he, little did my master and I think last night,
we were robbing our own orchards.

34. One seeing a kept whore, who make a very
figure, asked, What estate she had ? Oh! says
her, a very good estate in tail.

35. In the great dispute between *Smith* and *Sher-*
the latter, who was a great courtier said, His
sary reasoned well, but he barked like a cur,
which the other replied, that sawning was the
erty of a cur as well as barking.

36. Second thoughts, we commonly say, are
and young women who pretend to be averse

to marriage, desire not to be taken at their words. One asking a girl, If she would have him? Faith no John, says she, but you may have me if you will.

157. A gentleman lying on his death bed, called to his coachman, who had been an old servant, and said, Ah Tom, I am going a long and rugged journey, worse than ever ye drove me. Oh dear Sir, replied the fellow, (he having been but an indifferent master to him) ne'er let that discourage you, for it's all down hill.

158. An honest bluff country farmer meeting the parson of the parish in a bye lane, and not giving him the way so readily as he expected the parson with an erected crest, told him he was better served than taught. Very true indeed Sir, replied the farmer, *for you teach me and I feed myself.*

159. A famous teacher of *arithmetic*, who had long been married, without being able to get his wife with child; one said to her, Madam your husband is an excellent *arithmetician*. Yes, replied she, *but he cannot multiply.*

160. An arch boy being at table where there was a piping hot apple pye putting a bit into his mouth burnt it so that the tears ran down his cheeks. A gentleman that sat by, ask'd him, Why he wept. Only said he, because it is just come into my remembrance that my poor grandmother died this day twelvemonth. Phoo, said the other, is that all? Whipping a large piece into his mouth, he quickly sympathized with the boy; who seeing his eyes brim full; with a malicious sneer asked him, Why wept? A pox on you said he, because you were hang'd, you young dog, the same day your grandmother died.

161. A Lady who had married a gentleman who was a tolerable poet, one day sitting alone with him she said, Come my dear, you write upon other people, prithee write something for me; let me see what

epitaph

epitaph you'll bestow upon me when I die; Oh, my
 ear, replied he, that's a melancholy subject, prithee
 don't think of it: nay upon my life you shall, adds
 he; come I'll begin,

Here lies Bid:

to which he answered,

Ah! I wish she did.

154. One telling another that he had once so ex-
 cellent a gun that it went off immediately upon a
 chief's coming into the house, although it was not
 charged; How the devil can that be? said the o-
 ther, *Because*, said the first. *the thiel carried it off,*
and what was worse, before I had time to charge him
with it.

155. Some gentlemen coming out of a tavern pret-
 ty merry, a link boy cried, Have a light gentlemen?
 light yourself to the devil you dog, says one of
 the company. *Bless you, Master*, replied the boy,
we can find the way in the dark; shall we light your
worship thither?

156. A person was once tried at Kingston before the
 late Lord chief Justice Holt, for having two wives,
 where one Unit was to have been the chief evidence
 against him. After much calling for him word was
 brought that he could hear nothing of him. *No!*
 says his Lordship, *why then all I can say is, Mr U-*
it stands for a cypher.

157. A young fellow who had made an end of all
 he had, even to his last suit of cloaths: one said to
 him, Now I hope you'll own yourself a happy man
 for you have made an end of all your cares. How
 said the gentlemen? *Because*, said the other you
have nothing left to take care of.

158. The learned Mr Charles Barnard, serjeant
 at law to Queen Anne, being very severe upon
 persons having pluralities, a reverend and worthy
 divine heard him a good while with patience, but
 length took him up with this question: *Why do*
you, Mr Serjeant Barnard, rail thus at pluralities,

who have always so many fine cures upon your hands.

159. Dr Lloyd, Bishop of Worcester, so eminent for his prophecies, when by his solicitations at compliance at court he got removed from a poor Welsh bishopric to a rich English one, a reverend dean of the church said, *That he found his brother Lloyd spelt prophet with an F.*

160. A gentleman going into a meeting house, stumbling over one of the forms that were set there, cry'd out in a passion, *Who the devil expected set forms in a meeting house.*

161. A butcher in Smithfield, that lay on his death bed, said to his wife, My dear, I'm nor a man for this world, therefore advise you to marry of man John, he is a lusty strong fellow, fit for your business. *Oh dear husband,* said she, *if that's all, need let it trouble you, for John and I, have agreed the matter already.*

162. A gentleman having bespoke a supper at an inn, desired his landlord to sup with him. The host came up, and thinking to pay a greater compliment than ordinary to his guest, pretended to find fault with the laying the cloth, and took the plates and knives and threw them down stairs. The gentleman, resolving not to baulk his humour, threw the bottles and glasses down also; at which the host being surprized, enquired the reason of his so doing. *Nothing,* replied the gentleman, *but when I saw you throw the plates and knives down stairs, I thought you had a mind to sup below.*

163. When his late majesty in coming from Holland, happened to meet with a violent storm at sea, the captain of the yacht cried to the Chaplain, *five minutes more, doctor, we shall be with the Lord.* *The Lord forbid,* answered the doctor.

Most of the clergy follow this spelling.

173. A justice of peace seeing a parson on a very finely mounted horse, riding between *London* and *Hampstead*, said to some gentlemen that were with him. Do you see what a beautiful horse that parson has got, I'll enter him a little. Doctor, said he, you don't follow the example of your great master, who was humbly content to ride upon an ass. *Why, really Sir,* replied the parson, *the king has made so many asses justices, that an honest clergyman can hardly find one to ride. He had a mind to it.*

174. A great deal of company being at dinner at a gentleman's house, where a silver spoon was laid at the side of every plate, one of the company watching for a convenient opportunity, as he thought, and putting one of them into his pocket; but being observed more narrowly than he was aware of, the gentleman who sat opposite to him, took up another, and stuck it in the button hole of his bosom; which the master of the house perceiving, ask'd him in good humour, What was his fancy in that? *Why,* said he, *I thought every man was to have one, because I saw that gentleman over against me, put one in his pocket.*

175. The dutchess of Newcastle, who wrote plays and romances; in king Charles the second's time, asked Bishop Wilkins, How she could get up to the world in the moon, which he had discovered; for, as the journey must needs be very long, there could be no possibility of going thro' it, without sitting on the way? Oh, Madam, said the bishop, your Grace has built so many castles in the air, that you cannot want a place to bait at.

176. An old man who had married a young wife, complained to a friend how unhappy he had always been; When I was young, said he, I went abroad for want of a wife; and now I am old, my wife goes abroad for want of a husband.

177. A rich farmer's son, who had been bred at the university, coming home to visit his father and mother, they being one night at supper on a couple

ple of fowls, he told them, that by *Logic* and *Arithmetic*, he could prove these two fowls to be three. Well, let us hear, said the old man. What this, cried the scholar, is one, and this continued he, is two, two and one, you know, make three. *Since you have made it out so well*, answered the old man, *your mother shall have the first fowl, I will have the second, and the third you may keep yourself, for your great learning.*

178. A young spark dining at a friend's house and having promised a lady to meet her in the afternoon, but being obliged to stay and play at cards, he sent his man with an excuse to the lady, and whispered him, that when he came back, he might deliver his answer before the company aloud, as if he came from a gentleman; accordingly away went his servant, and being called in on his return. Well, said his master, was the gentleman at home? Yes, Sir, answered the man. And what said he, replied the master? That it was very well, for he was engaged this evening. And what was he doing? Putting on his hood and mantle to go to the play, Sir, said the footman.

179. A gentleman who had a suit in chancery was called upon by his counsel to put in his answer for fear of incurring contempt. And why, said the gentleman, is not my answer put in? How should I draw your answer, cried the lawyer, I know what you can swear? Pox on your scruples, replied the client, prithee do your part as lawyer and draw a sufficient answer and let me be alone to do the part of a gentleman and swear to it.

180. A country lass with a pail of milk on her head going to market, was reckoning all the ways what she might make of it. This milk, said she, will bring me so much money, that money will buy so many eggs, those eggs so many chickens, and, with the fox's leave, those chickens will make

me mistress of a pig, and that pig may grow a fat hog, and when I have sold that, I may buy a cow and a calf; and then, says she, comes a sweetheart, perhaps a farmer; him I marry, and my neighbours will say, How do you do, goody such a one? and I'll answer, Thank you neighbour, how do you? But may be my sweetheart may be a yeoman, and then it will be, How do you do, Mrs Such a one? I'll say, Thank you. Oh! but suppose I should marry a gentleman; then they'll say, Your servant, Madam, but then I'll toss up my head, and say nothing. Upon the sudden transport of this thought, and with the motion of her head, down came the milk, which put an end at once to her fine scheme of her eggs, her chickens, her pig, her hog, and her husband.

181. *Daniel Purcel*, who was a nonjuror, was telling a friend of his, when King George the first landed at Greenwich, that he had a full view of him. Then, said his friend, you know him by sight. Yes, replied Daniel, *I think I know him, but I can't swear to him.*

182. A countryman driving an ass by St James' Gate one day, which being dull and restive, he was forced to beat it very much; a gentleman coming out of the gate, chid the fellow for using his beast so cruelly: Oh, dear sir, said the countryman, *I am glad to find my ass has a friend at court.*

183. A lady perceiving her maid to be with child, asked her, Who was the father of it? Indeed, Madam, said she, my master. And where did he get it, said the Lady? In your chamber, Madam, answered the other, after you were gone to bed. And why did you not cry out, said the lady? Indeed, Madam, replied the other, *I made no noise for fear of awakening you.*

184. One Irishman, meeting another, asked, What was become of their old acquaintance Patrick Murphy? Arrah, now, dear honey, answered

the other, *poor Patty was condemned to be hang'd, but he saved his life by dying in prison.*

185. Another Irishman getting on a high mettled horse, it ran away with him; upon which one of his companions called to him to stop him: Arrah honey, cried he, how can I do that, when I have got no spurs.

186. It being asked in company with my Lord C——d, whether the piers of Westminster bridge would be of stone or wood. Oh, said my Lord, of stone to be sure, for we have too many wooden piers (*peers*) already at Westminster.

187. One telling Charles XII. of Sweden, just before the battle of Narva, that the enemy was three to one: I am glad to hear it, answered the king, for then there will be enough to kill, enough to take prisoners, and enough to run away.

188. The standers by, to comfort a poor man who lay on his death-bed, told him, he should be carried to church by four proper fellows; *I thank ye*, said he, *but I had much rather go by myself.*

189. One asking a painter how he could paint such pretty faces in his pictures, and get such homely children? Because, said he, I make the first by day light, and the other in the dark.

190. A toping fellow was one night making his will over his bottle; I will give, said he, fifty pounds to five taverns, to drink to my memory when I am dead; ten pounds to the salutation for courtiers; ten pounds to the castle for soldiers; ten pounds to the mitre for parsons; ten pounds to the horn for citizens; and ten pounds to the Devil for the lawyers.

191. A gentleman calling for small beer at another gentleman's table, finding it very hard, gave the servant again without drinking; What, said the master of the house, don't you like the beer? It is not to be found fault with, answered the other, for one should never speak ill of the dead.

192. some men and their wives, who all lived in the same street, and on the same side of the way, being merry making at a neighbour's house, said one of the husbands, it is reported, that all the men in our row are cuckolds but one; his wife soon after being a little thoughtful, What makes you so sad my dear? said her husband, I hope you are not offended at what I said? No, replied she, *I am only considering who that one in our row that is not a cuckold.*

193. A certain Lord who had a termagant wife, and at the same time a chaplain who was a tolerable poet, my Lord desired him to write him a copy of verses on a shrew. *I cannot imagine,* said the parson *why your Lordship should want a copy who have so good an original.*

194. A gentleman talking of his travels a Lady in company said she had been a great deal further, and seen more countries than he — *Nay then, Madam,* replied the gentleman, *as travellers we may be together by authority.*

195. One asked his friend, Why he, being so proper a man himself, had married so small a wife. *Why, friend,* said he, *I thought you had known, that of all evils we should chuse the least.*

196. A gentleman speaking of Peggy Yates, the famous courtesan, who had always an abundance of fine cloaths, said, She was like a squirrel, for she always covered her back with her tail.

197. A gentleman threatening to go to law, was dissuaded from it by his friends who desired him to consider, for the law was chargeable; I don't care, replied the other, I will not consider, I will go to law. Right, said his friend, *for if you go to law, I am sure you don't consider.*

198. A man and his wife being in bed together, towards morning, Madam pretended to be much out of order, desired to lye on her husband's side; the good man, to humour her, came over, but made some short stay in the middle; about half an hour after

after, she wanted to come to her own side of the bed again; the good old man obliged her the second time, but not content with this, a little while after she would needs change places again; How can it be said the husband. Why can't you come the same way you did before? answered the wife. No, by my oath, replied he, *I would rather go five miles about.*

199. A wench swearing a bastard child to a gentleman in the country, the justice having a respect for the gentleman's lady, took upon him to joke the gentleman, and asked him, why he would defile his marriage-bed? There was no bed in the case, answered the gentleman, good Mr Justice, for it *was done in the field.*

200. One wished a young married man joy, for she heard his wife was quick already, she told him. Ay, said he, quick indeed, for I have been married but six months, and she was brought to bed yesterday.

201. A certain lieutenant of a man of war, under the command of the late Lord Torrington, having in the engagements with the Spaniards in the Mediterranean, one of his arms shot off within a few inches of his shoulder, while the surgeon was dressing it he could not forbear laughing; one standing by, ask'd him the reason; Why, said he, I cannot help thinking of a wish that I have often made, that a certain part about me was as long as my arm, and now I believe it is three or four inches longer.

202. A poor fellow who growing rich on a sudden, from a very mean and beggarly condition, and taking great state upon him, was met one day by one of his poor acquaintances, who accosted him in a very humble manner, but having no notice taken of him, cried out. *Nay, it is no great wonder that you should not know me, when you have forgot yourself.*

203. A country fellow getting into a gentleman's orchard one night, with the design of robbing a mulberry tree, had not been long in it, before one of the men and one of the maids came jost under the place where he was, which made him lie as snug as he could, 'till the business they came about was over; when the chambermaid began to give vent to those fears which the fury of her appetite would not admit into her thoughts before. Lord John, said she, now you have had your filthy will, what if I should prove with child, who will take care of it? There's one above, replied John, I hope will provide for it. *Is there so,* said the countryman, *but I'll have you to know, that if I provide for any body's bastard, it shall be for one of my own begetting.*

204. Marcus Livius, who was governor of Tarentum when Hannibal took it, being envious to see so much honour done to Fabius Maximus, said one day in open senate, That it was himself not Fabius Maximus, that was the cause of retaking the city of Tarentum. Fabius said smilingly, *Indeed thou speakest truth, for hadst thou not lost it, I should never have retaken it.*

205. One asking another which way a man might use tobacco to have any benefit from it: By setting up a shop to sell it, said he, for certainly there is no profit to be had from it any other way.

206. The same wag, an arch one to be sure, said Taylors were like woodcocks, for they get their sustenance by their long bills.

207. A certain ancient *dutchess* having had a present made to her of a fine stallion, going the next day into her stable yard, ordered him to be brought out for her to see, and then would needs have a mare brought to him, the groom asking her which? Old Bess, said she. Lord Madam, answered the groom, that will be to little purpose: Old Bess is too old to be with foal. No matter for that, cry'd she, it will refresh the poor old creature.

208. A sharper of the town seeing a country gentleman sit alone at an inn, and thinking something might be made of him, he went and sat near him, and took the liberty to drink to him. Having thus introduced himself, he called for a paper of tobacco and said, Do you smoke Sir, Yes, said the gentleman very gravely, any one that has a delign upon me.

209. A certain country farmer was observed never to be in a good humour when he was hungry; for this reason, his wife was fain carefully to watch the time of his coming home, and always have dinner ready on the table; one day he surprised her, and she had only time to set a mess of broth ready for him; who soon according to custom began to open his pipes, and maundering over his broth, forgetting what he was about, burnt his mouth to some purpose. The good wife seeing him in that sputtering condition, comforted him as follows; See what it is now, had you kept your breath to cool your pottage you had not burnt your mouth John.

210. The same woman taking up dinner once on a Sunday, it happened that the liquorish ploughboy who lay under a strong and violent temptation, pinch'd off the corner of a plumb dumpling; which his dame espying, in a great rage laid the wooden ladle over his pate laying, Can't you stay sirrah, till your betters are served before you? The boy clapping his hand on his head, and seeing the blood come, 'tis very hard, said he. So it is sirrah, said she, or it had not broke my ladle.

211. A Scotch bag piper travelling to Ireland, open'd his wallet by a wood-side, and sat down to dinner; no sooner had he said his grace, but three wolves came about him. To one he threw bread to another meat, 'till his provender was all gone. — At length he took up his bag pipes, and began to play at which the wolves ran away. — The deer saw me said Sawney, an I had ken'd you low'd murther so, you shou'd have had it before dinner.

212. The

212. The arch duke of Austria having been forced to raise the siege of a town called Grave, in Holland, and to retreat privately by night: queen Elizabeth said to his secretary here — What, your master is risen from the grave without sound of trumpet.

213. Lawyers and chambermaids, said a wicked young fellow are like Balaam's ass, *they never speak unless they see an angel.*

214. One being at his wife's funeral, and the bearers going pretty quick along, he cryed out to them, *Don't go so fast; what need we make a toil of pleasure?*

215. A country squire being in company with his mistress, and wanting his servant, cry'd out, *Where is the blockhead? Upon your shoulders,* said the lady.

216. Among the articles exhibited to king Henry by the Irish, against the earl of Kildare, the last concluded thus; — And finally all Ireland cannot rule the earl. Then said the king, *The earl shall rule all Ireland,* and so made him deputy.

217. A sea officer, who for his courage in a former engagement where he had lost his leg, had been preferred to the command of a good ship; in the heat of the next engagement, a cannon ball took off his wooden deputy, so that he fell upon the deck; a seaman thinking he had been fresh wounded, called out for a surgeon, *No, no,* said the captain, *the carpenter will do.*

218. A nobleman, in a certain king's reign, being appointed groom of the stole, his majesty took notice to him of the odd sort of perukes he used to wear, and desired that he would now get something that was graver, and more suitable to his age, and the high office he had conferred on him. The next Sunday his lordship appeared at court in a very decent peruke, which being observed by another nobleman famous

famous for the art of punning, he came up to him and told him, *That he was obliged to alter his lock, now he had got the key. (a)*

219. A young gentleman having got his neighbour's maid with child, the master a grave man, came to expostulate with him about it. Lord Sir, said he, I wonder how you could do so: *Prithee, where is the wonder? If she had got me with child, you might have wonder'd in lee!*

220. A smart fellow thinking to shew his wit one night at a tavern, called to the waiter, Here, Mercury, said he, take away this bottle full of emptiness. Said one of the company, *Do you speak that Jack, of your own head?*

221. A gentleman having sent for his carpenter's servant to knock a nail or two in his study, the fellow after he had done, scratch'd his ears, and said, He hop'd the gentleman would give him something to make him drink. *Make you drink!* said the gentleman, *there's a pickled herring for you, and if that won't make you drink, I'll give you another.*

222. Alphonso king of Naples, sent a moor, who had been his captive a long time, to Barbary with a considerable sum of money to purchase horses, and to return by such a time. There was about the king a buffoon, or jester, who had a table book, wherein he used to register any remarkable absurdity that happened at court. The day the moor was dispatched to Barbary, the said jester waiting on the king at supper, the king call'd for his table book: the king took the book and read, how Alphonso king of Naples had sent Beltrum the moor, who had been a long time his prisoner, to Morroco, his own country, with many thousand crowns to buy horses. The king

turn'd

(a) *The groom of the stole wears a gold key, tied with a blue ribbon at his left pocket.*

turn'd to the jester, and asked, Why he inserted that? Because, said he. I think he will never come back to be a prisoner again; and so you have lost both man and money; but if he does come, says the king, then your jest is marr'd: *No, Sir,* replied the jester, *for if he should return, I will blot out your name, and put in his for a fool.*

223. The late Sir Robert Henly, having received a commission, constituting him captain of the Eleazar fireship, was the same evening passing home to his lodgings, when a fine *Madam* meeting him in the street, earnestly entreated the favour of a glass of wine; the baronet cursing her for a silly whore, said, *he was well content with one fireship in one day.*

224. A gentleman named Ball being about to purchase a cornetcy in a regiment of horse, was presented to the colonel for approbation, who being a nobleman, declared he did not like the name, and would have no balls in his regiment: *Nor powder,* said the gentleman, *if your Lordship could help it.*

225. Two Irishmen having travelled on foot from Chester to Barnet, were confoundedly tired and fatigued with their journey; and the more so, when they were told they had still about ten miles to London. *By my soul and St. Patrick,* cries one of them, *it is but five miles a piece, let's e'en walk on.*

226. Young fellows, said a mettled girl, are generally in the wrong, so very impudent that they are nauseous, or so modest that they are useless.

227. Married women, said one, usually shew all their modesty the first day, as married men shew all their love the first night.

228. A certain Lord would fain have persuaded a dependant on his lordship, to marry his cast-off mistress. For tho', said he, she has been a little used, when she has got a good husband, she may turn: *Yes, but my Lord,* replied the other, *she has been so much used, that I fear she is not worth turning.*

229. A amorous young fellow, who designed a
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favour to his neighbour's wife, the chambermaid came running in, and told them her master was at the door. 'Sdeath, said the lover, can't I get thro' the parlour window? No, no, replied the girl, *there are some iron bars; but if you will run up three pair of stairs, you may jump out of the garret window easy enough.*

230. Mr Pope being at dinner with a noble duke, had his own servant in livery waiting on him; the duke ask'd him, Why he, that eat mostly at people's tables, should be such a fool as to keep a fellow in livery only to laugh at him? 'Tis true answered the poet, he kept but one to laugh at him; but his Grace had the honour to keep a dozen.

231. An Irish fellow vaunting of his birth and family, affirmed that when he came first to England he made such a figure, that the bells rang through all the towns he passed to London: Ay, said a gentleman in company, *I suppose that was because you came up in a waggon with a bell team.*

232. One meeting an old acquaintance, whom the world had frowned upon a little, ask'd him, Where he liv'd? Where I live! said he, I don't know; but I harve down towards Wapping and that way.

233. Two country attornies overtaking a waggoner on the road, and thinking to break a joke upon him, ask'd him, Why his fore horse was so fat and the rest so lean? The waggoner knowing them to be limbs of the law, answered them, That his fore horse was his lawyer, and the rest were his clients.

234. An old Bawd being carried before Justice M——s, for keeping a disorderly house, strongly denied all that was charged upon her. Housewife! said the justice, how have you the audacity to deny it; you do keep a bawdy-house, and will maintain it. Will you replied the old lady, the Lord bless you! I always heard you were a kind-hearted gentleman.

235. At a cause tried at the king's bench bar, a witness was produced who had a very red nose, and one of the counsel, a good impudent fellow, being desirous to put him out of countenance, called out to him after he was sworn, Well let's hear what you have to say with your copper nose? *Why Sir,* said he, *by the oath I have taken, I would not exchange my copper nose for your brazen face.*

236. A gentleman in the country who had three daughters, discoursing one evening on rural affairs, and the nature of vegetation, asked one of his daughters what plant or herb she thought grew the fastest? The young lady replied, *Asparagus.* Then he ask'd the second, she answered, *A pompon or gourd;* and when the same question was put to the youngest, she replied, *The pommel of a saddle;* which very much surprizing the old gentleman, he desired to know what she meant, and how she could make it out? *Why,* said she, *when I was one day riding behind our John, and the way being so rough that I was afraid I should fall off, he cry'd, Miss, put your hand about my waist, and lay hold of the pommel of the saddle; and I am sure papa, when I first took hold of it, it was not much bigger than my finger; and in less than a minute it was thicker than my wrist.*

237. A gentleman having received some abuse, in passing through one of the inns of Chancery, from some of the impudent clerks, he was advised to complain to the principal, which he did accordingly; and coming before him, accosted him in the following manner; *I have been grossly abused here by some of the rascals of this house, and understanding you are the principal, I am come to acquaint you with it.*

238. An old roundhead in Oliver's time, complaining of some heavy rain that fell, said a cavalier standing by, What unreasonable fellows you roundheads are, who will neither be pleased when God rains, nor when the king reigns.

239. A young curate, with more pertness than wit,

wit or learning, being ask'd in company, How came to take it into his head to enter into the ministry of the church? Because, said he, the Lord has need of me. That may be, replied a gentleman present, for I have often read, that the Lord had no need of an ass.

240. A very ignorant, but very foppish young fellow going into a bookseller's shop with a relation who went thither to buy something he wanted, seeing his cousin look into a particular book and smiling at him, What there was in that book that made him smile? Why, answered the other, this book is dedicated to you, cousin Jack; is it so? said he, let me see it, for I never knew before that I had such an honour done to me, upon which, taking it into his hands, he found it to be Perkins catechism, dedicated to all ignorant persons.

241. There was a short time when Mr Handkerchief notwithstanding his merit, was deserted, and his opera at the Hay-market neglected almost by everybody but his m—y, for that of Porpora at Lincoln's Inn Fields; at this time another nobleman asked the earl of C—d if he would go one night to the opera? My lord asked, Which? Oh, to that in the Hay market, answered the other. No my lord, said the earl, I have no occasion for a private audience of his m—y to night.

242. Some scholars on a time, going to steal conies, by the way they warned a novice among them to make no noise, for fear of spoiling the game; but he no sooner espied some, but he came out aloud *Ecce coniculi multi*. Whereupon the conies ran with all speed into their burrows; upon which his fellow chid him; Who the devil, says he, would have thought that the conies understood Latin?

243. I'll swear, says a gentleman to his mistress, you are very handsome. Phoo, said she, so you say, tho' you did not think so. And so you'd think, answered he, tho' I should not say so.

244. One was joking with a lawyer for tarrying so long from his wife upon the circuit, saying, In his absence she might want due benevolence; I shall give her use for that, answered the lawyer, at my return; and put the case any one owed you fifty pounds, would you not rather have it in a lump, than shilling by shilling? It is true, replied the other, most people would; but it would vex you if your wife should want a shilling in your absence, and be forced to borrow it.

245. A drunken fellow having sold all his goods, to maintain himself at his pot, except his featherbed, at last made away with that too; when being reproved for it by some of his friends; Why, said he, I am very well, thank God, and why should I keep my bed.

246. An old lady meeting a Cambridge man, ask'd him, How her nephew behav'd himself? Truly madam, says he, he's a brave fellow, and sticks close to Cambridge hall*. I vow, said she, I feared as much, he was always hankering after the wenches from a boy.

247. In a town where there had been a remarkable slaughter of maidenheads, and as great a propagation of horns, by a small body of redcoats, which had been quartered there: one was saying that he wondered why the women were so fond of soldiers! Who, says another, I don't wonder at it; the gentlemen in red, and their brethren in black, have for many ages, been in possession of the sex; the latter, upon the account of their secrecy, and the other, from the heroic performances they may expect from them. In fine, adds he, *women are like mackerel, bait with a book with a piece of scarlet cloth, and you infallibly take them.*

248. Some rattling young fellows from London getting into a country inn, seeing a plain rough-town

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town

* The name of a college in that university.

† A piece of redcloath, the common bait for mackarel.

hewn farmer there, says one of them, You shall be me dumb sound that countryman: so coming up to him, he gave his hat a-twirl round, laying, there half a crown for you countryman. The former, after recovering a little from his surprize, rear'd his oaken towel, and surveying him very gravely, gave him two very handsome drubs on the shoulder, saying, I thank you for your kindness friend, there two shillings of your money again.

249. One of the aforesaid rattling blades having been once a little kick'd for his impertinence, demanded of his benefactor with a bluff face, Whether he was in earnest or not? Yes faith, said the other in very good earnest, laying his hand on his sword—Say you so, replied he, I am glad of that with my heart, *for I don't like such jests.*

250. A poet going over Lincoln's Inn Fields, one who pretended to be a poor maim'd soldier, begged his charity. The poet asked him by what authority he went a begging? I have a licence for it, answered the soldier. Licence! said the poet, *Lice thou may have, but sense thou canst have none, to beg of a poet.*

251. At the masquerade in the Hay market, one appearing in the habit of a bishop another for a jest's sake, bowed his knee to ask blessing. The former laying his hand on his head, very demurely said, Prithoe rise, there's nothing in it indeed, friend.

252. A merchant in London, having bought a pretty estate in Surry, and afterwards two or three more fields adjoining to it, a person speaking of his purchase to a friend, said, *He did not think Mr. So-and-so had been in circumstances to make so large a purchase.* O! dear, said the other, you don't know how considerable a man he is; why since he bought this estate in Surry he has bought *Moor fields*. *That must be a greater purchase, indeed* replied the other.

253. The old earl of B——d, one of the facetious men of his time. being once in waiting at court, made an excuse one morning to leave

king, assuring his majesty he would be back to wait on him before 12 o'clock; there being great occasion for his attendance. The king had enquired for him several times, his lordship having exceeded his time: at length he came, and going to the clock in the drawing room, heard it strike one; at which being a little enraged; he up with his cane, and broke the glass of the clock. The king asked him afterwards, What made him break the clock? I am sure, says my lord, your majesty won't be angry when you hear; Pristhee, said the king, what was it? *Why blood, my liege, the clock struck first.*

254. A person having been put to great shifts to get money to support his credit; some of his creditors at length sent him word, that they would give him trouble. Pox, says he, *I have had trouble enough to borrow the money, and had not need to be troubled to pay it again.*

255. A country woman being sick, bequeathed her sow with pig to the parson, who thinking she would hardly recover, came soon after, and took the sow away. The good wife recovering, asked for her sow, and being told the parson she had left it to, came when she was very bad, and had taken her away. Bless us, says she, *the parson is worse than the devil, for one may call upon him twenty times to take one before he'll do it; but I did but once bid the parson take my sow, and he fetched her immediately.*

256. Queen Elizabeth seeing a gentleman in her garden, who had not felt the effect of her favours so soon as he expected, looking out of her window, said to him in Italian, *What does a man think of Sir Edward, when he thinks of nothing?* After a little pause he answered, *He thinks Madam, of a woman's promise.* The queen shrunk in her head, but was heard to say, *Well Sir Edward, I must not confuse you; anger makes dull men witty, but it keeps them poor.*

257. A lady whose beauty was very much upon the decline, having sent her picture to a gentleman that

that was to come a wooing to her; bid her chamber-maid when she was coming to dress her, take care in repairing her decays a little, or she should not look her picture. *I warrant you Madam, says she, laying on the Bavarian red, a little art once made your picture like you, now a little of the same art shall make you like your picture; your picture must fit to you.*

258. A beautiful young lady, but extremely fanciful and humorous, being on the point of resigning herself into the arms of her lover, began to enter on the condition that the expected should be observed after the articles were signed and executed. Among the rest, says she, positively I will lie in bed as long as I please in the morning; *With all my heart, Madam, says he, provided I may get up when I please.*

259. A termagant sempstress coming to dupe a young fellow at his lodgings, where he was terribly afraid to have his landlady hear: she began to open her quill pipes at a great rate; but was presently seized with a fit of coughing. Lord, says she, I have got such a cold I can hardly speak. Nay as to that, says he, I don't care how softly you speak. Don't tell me of speaking softly, says she, let me have my money, or I'll take the law of you. — *Do, says he, then you'll be forc'd to hold your tongue, for the law allows nobody to scold in their own cause.*

260. One who had married a light hell'd wife, instead of an innocent country girl, which he took her for, was severely rallied upon the discovery, by his acquaintance. Among the rest, a young lady having been very severe with him, he called to her lover who was present, saying, Sir take off your waist. I'll have a fly-flap else. — *You'll have occasion for it, says she, your wife has been blown upon.*

261. Count Gondemar, the Spanish ambassador here, in Queen Elizabeth's time, sent a compliment to the Lord St Alban's, whom he lived in no good terms with, wishing him a merry Easter. My Lord thank'd the messenger, and said, he could no more

quit

quite the count better than by wishing him a good Passover.

262. A certain philosopher, when he saw men in a hurry to finish any matter, used to say, Stay a little, that we make an end the sooner.

263. Sir Francis Bacon was wont to say of a passionate man who suppressed his anger, that he thought worse than he spoke; and of an angry man, that would vent his passion in words, *That he spake worse than he thought.*

265. He was likewise wont to commend much the advice of a plain old man at Buxton, who sold brooms. A proud lazy young fellow came to him for a besom upon trust, to whom the old man said, *Friend, hast thou no money? borrow of thy back and of thy belly, they'll never ask thee for it, I shall be dining thee every day.*

265. When recruits were raising for the late wars, a serjeant told his captain, that he had got a very extraordinary man: Ay, says the captain, prithee what is he? A butcher, Sir, replies the serjeant, and your honour will have double service of him, for we have had two sheep stealers in the company before.

266. A harmless country fellow having commenced a suit against a gentleman that had beat down his fences, and spoiled his corn; when the assizes drew near, his adversary bribed his only evidence to keep out of the way; Well, says the fellow, I'm resolved I'll up to town, and the king shall know it. The king know it, says his landlord, who was an attorney, prithee what good will that do you if the man keep out of the way? Why Sir, says the poor fellow, *I have heard you say, the king could make a man A PEER at any time.*

267. To what an ebb of taste are women fallen, that it should be in the power of a laced coat and a feather to recommend a gallant to them: tailors & perriwig makers are become the bawds of the nation; that

that for that hat not whatewithal by nature to turn a cook maid, shall by a little of their assistance, be able to subdue a countess.

268. In Oliver's time when people were married by a justice of peace, one giving a reason for it, said, *That none was so fit to marry others as he that, by virtue of his office, was empowered to lay people by the back.*

269. When the late dauphin of France said to the facetious duke of Roquelaure, Stand farther off, Roquelaure, for you stink. The Duke replied, I ask your pardon sir, 'tis you that smell, not I.

270. A decayed gentleman coming to one who had been a servant to borrow money of him, received a very scabby answer, concluding in the following words; Lord Sir, what do you trouble me for? I have no money to lend. I am sure you lie, says the gentleman, for if you was not rich you durst not be so saucy.

271. The Roman catholics make a sacrament of matrimony, and in consequence of that notion, pretend that it confers grace; the protestant divines do not carry matters so high, but say, This ought to be understood in a qualified sense; and that marriage so far confers grace, as that, generally speaking, it brings repentance, which every body knows is one step towards grace.

272. A lady, who had a mind, she told another, to quarrel with an impertinent teasing young fellow she did not like, said, she could not tell how to provoke him, he was so very assiduous and submissive. 'Slife, said her friend, I'd spit in his face. Alas replied she, that wont do, when men are fawning like lap dogs, they'll take that for a favour.

273. Fond wives, said one, do by their husbands as barren wives do by their lap dogs, cram them with sweetmeats, till they cloy their stomachs.

274. A knavish attorney asking a very worthy gentleman, what was honesty? What is that to you? said he, *meddle with those things that concern you.*

275. A wild young fellow, that had spent his fortune, being asked: What he intended to do with himself? said, He designed to go into the army. How can that be, says one, you are a Jacobite, and can't take the oaths. You may as well tell me, says he, that I can't take orders, because I am an Atheist. I ask your pardon, replied the other, *I did not know the strength of your conscience so well as I did the weakness of your purse.*

276. An old fellow having a great rich after his neighbour's wife, employed the chambermaid in the business. At the next meeting he enquired: what answer the lady had sent him? Answer! said the girl, why she has sent you this for a token: (giving him a smart slap on the face.) Ay, cried the old fellow, rubbing his chops, *and you have lost none of my money by the way, I thank you.*

277. A gentleman complaining of a misfortune, said, it was along with that drunken sot his man, who could not keep himself sober. With respect to your worship, said the fellow, I know very few drunken sots that do keep themselves sober.

278. One said of a young woman, whose chastity was violently assaulted by a handsome young fellow. That she was in a fair way to be ruined, as a boy was to be a rogue, when he was first put clerk to an attorney.

279. A certain Irishman making strong love to a great fortune, told her, He could not sleep for dreaming of her.

280. A plain country yeoman bringing his daughter to town, said for all she was brought up altogether in the country, she was a girl of sense. Yes, says a pert young female in the company, Country sense. Why, faith Madam, says the fellow, *country sense is better sometimes than London impudence.*

281. A thousand actions pass in the world for virtuous, tho' they proceed from a quite different principle. My Lord released Arsenus out of prison and

and paid his debts; this every one applauded as an act of the highest and most disinterested generosity. *The little knew that his Lordship lay every night with Arsennus's sister.*

282. Give us a man without a fortune, said a sensible young lady, rather than a fortune without a man.

283. A merry drolling fellow who lived with a lady that was just on the point of matrimony, being sent with a *bow d'ye* to an acquaintance of hers, who lived a few miles off, was asked how his lady did. Ah, dear Madam, replied the fellow, *She can never live long in this condition.*

284. A person advising a lady in town to marry a country gentleman; to recommend the match on stronger terms, told her it would be more convenient for her, because his concerns in the country joined to hers. Ay, says the lady, but his concerns shall never join to mine in the city.

285. An English gentleman travelling to France had made choice of an abbot as wicked as himself for the companion of his pleasures; one of his countrymen told him. That though the abbot and he differed about the way to heaven, they were in a false way of going to the devil together.

286. Two persons quarrelling at a tavern; after the heat was a little over, one of them being straitened for a conveniency to make water, but being hemmed in, said to his antagonist, — How shall I get by you? Get by me, says the other, Why what a pox did I ever get by you.

287. A very grave person being carried before a magistrate, for having a little thing as big as a ball laid to him, one that was passing by, asked what was the matter? Only, says another, an old gentleman is apprehended upon suspicion of manhood. Manhood! says the former, What! has he committed murder? Quite contrary, replied the other; he has committed

committed murder? *Quite contrary*, replied the other, *he has committed fornication, and got a subject, not killed one.*

288. A petulant self-willed coxcomb was threatening, if his humour was not gratified, to leave his relations and family, and go away to France. *Let him alone*, lays one, *he will come back from France, before he goes half-way to Dover.*

289. A countryman in the street enquiring the way to *Newgate*, an arch fellow that heard him, said *he'd shew him presently. Do but go cross the way*, said he, *to yon goldsmith's shop, and move off with one of those silver tankards, and it will bring you thither presently.*

290. Men sometimes blurt out very unlucky truths. A town beggar was very importunate with a rich miser, whom he accosted in the following phrase: *Pray Sir, bestow your charity: good dear Sir, bestow your charity. Prithee friend, be quiet*, replied old Gripus, *I have it not.*

291. A certain priest in a rich abbey in Florence, being a fisherman's son, caused a net to be spread every day on a table in his apartment, to put him in mind of his original, the abbot dying, this dissimulated humility procured him to be chosen abbot: after which, the net was used no more. Being asked the reason, he answered, *There is no occasion for the net now, the fish is caught.*

292. A busy impertinent entertaining Aristotle the philosopher, one day with a tedious discourse, and observing that he did not much regard him, made an apology, *That he was afraid he had interrupted him. No really*, replied the philosopher, *you have not interrupted me at all, for I have not minded one word you said.*

293. Two conceited coxcombs, wrangling and expoling one another before company, one told them, *That they had both done like wits; For you*

witt, says he, *never give over till you prove
ther fools.*

294. One seeing an affected coxcomb
books, told him, His bookseller was proper
upholsterer, for he furnished his room rather than
his head.

295. A young lady; with a good fortune, having
bestowed herself on a wild young fellow, Well, say
the old lady her aunt, for all you were so eager to
have him, you'll have your belly full of him in a
little time, I'll warrant you.

296. A lawyer and a physician having a dispute
about precedence, referred it to Diogenes, who gave
it in the favour of the lawyer in these terms: *Let
the thief go before, and the executioner follow.*

297. A person having two very ungracious sons,
the one robb'd him of his money, and t'other of his
goods; his neighbour coming to condole with him,
told him, *He might sue the county, for he had been
robbed between son and son.*

298. Du Val, who was a very famous highway
man, and at length suffered for his robberies, was
likewise as famous for gaining the hearts of the women,
men, being a smart dapper fellow; after his death
he had this epitath bestowed on him;

*Here lies Du Val: — Reader, if male thou art,
Look to thy purse; — if female, to thy heart;
Much havock he has made in both; — for all
The men he made to stand, — the women fall.*

299. A citizen dying greatly in debt, it coming
to his creditors ears, Farewell, said one, there is
much of mine gone with him; and he carried
much of mine, said another; one hearing them make
their several complaints, said, Well I see now, that
though a man can carry nothing of his own out of
the world, yet he may carry a great deal of other
mens.

300. A mad crew went to a tavern with a devilish intention to be damnable drunk; one being more empowered than the rest, spew'd perpetually; and being that he could no longer bear them company, call'd for the reckoning: Why, said one, cannot you tell that, that have so often cast up what you drank? No, marry, I cannot, said he, for I was so busy in casting up the account, that I did not mind the reckoning.

301. Three young conceited wits, as they thought themselves passing along the road near Oxford, met a grave old gentleman, with whom they had a mind to be rudely merry; Good-morrow father Abraham: Good morrow, father Isaac, said the next: Good morrow, father Jacob, cryed the last. I am neither Abraham, Isaac nor Jacob, replied the old gentleman, but Saul the son of Kish, who went out to seek his father's asses, and lo, here I have found them.

302. A young maid coming fresh out of the country was courted by a person of quality, who she understood was infected by the foul disease. My lord paid his constant devoirs to her, and promised her marriage; which she refusing, some of her friends asked her, Why she, who was meanly born would not marry one that would not only enrich her, but ennoble her blood; *I will not, says she, corrupt my flesh, to better my blood, for any Lord in Christendom.*

303. An ingenious young gentleman, at the university of Oxford, being appointed to preach before the vice chancellor, and the heads of the college at St. Mary's, and having formerly observed the awkwardness of the vice chancellor, took this place of scripture for his text: *What! cannot ye watch one hour?* At every division, he concluded with his text; which by reason of the vice chancellor's sitting so near the pulpit, often awaked him; this was so noted among the wits, that it was the talk of the whole university, and withal it did so nettles the

vice chancellor, that he complained to the Archbishop of Canterbury, who willing to redress him, sent for this scholar up to London, to defend himself against the crime laid to his charge. where coming he gave so many proofs of his extraordinary wit that the Archbishop enjoined him to preach before king James. After some excuses, he at length consented; and coming into the pulpit, began *James the First and the Sixth, waver not*; meaning the first king of England, and the sixth of Scotland. at first the king was somewhat amazed at the text but in the end was so well pleased with the sermon that he made him one of his chaplains in ordinary. after this advancement, the Archbishop sent him down to Oxford to make his recantation to the vice chancellor, and to take leave of the university, which he accordingly did, and took the latter part of the verse of the former text, *Sleep on now and take your rest*; concluding his sermon, he made his apology to the vice chancellor, saying, Whereas I said before, which gave offence, What! cannot ye wait one hour? I say now, *Sleep on now, and take your rest*; and so left the university.

304. A young man married to an ill temper'd woman, who not contented, though he was very kind to her, made continual complaints to her father, to the great grief of both families; the husband being no longer able to endure this scurvy humour, bang'd her soundly. Hereupon she complained to her father who understanding well the perverseness of her humour, took her to task, and lac'd her sides soundly too; saying, *Go, and commend me to your husband and tell him, I am now even with him, for I have begell'd his wife, as he hath beaten my daughter.*

305. A fellow hearing one say, according to the Italian proverb. That three women make a market with their chatting; Nay then, said he, *add my wife to them, and they will make a fair.*

306. One of king James the first's chaplains preaching

preaching before the court at Whitehall, made use of the following quibbles in his discourse. Speaking of the depravity of the age, almost all houses, he said, were made ale houses, that men made matrimony a matter of money; and placed their paradise in a pair of dice: was it so in the days of Noah?

307. Two ladies just returned from Bath, were telling a gentleman how they liked the place, & how they agreed with them: the first had been ill, and found great benefit from the waters: but pray what did you go for? said he to the second. Mere wantonness, replied she. *And pray did it cure you?*

308. A very fine Lady who had the gout, asked Mr M——, what was the occasion of the gout? *Wasting and drinking Madam,* said he.

309. Several press gangs infesting the streets of the city and suburbs, one of which giving umbrage to a merry punster, who had just staggered from a tavern, into the middle of them: he said pleasantly enough, *God bless his majesty's arms! but as to the supporters, they are beasts.*

310. It was well answered by *Archbishop Tillotson* to king *William*, when he complained of the shortness of his sermon, *Sir,* said the bishop, *could I have bestowed more time on it, it would not have been so long.*

311. Mr Prior, when ambassador, being at one of the French operas at Paris, and seated in a box with a nobleman he was free with, who, as usual in France, sang louder than the performer, burst into bitter invectives against the last: upon which his Lordship gave over to enquire the reason, adding, that the person he exclaimed against so fiercely, was one of the finest voices they had. Yes, replies his excellency, but he makes such a horrid noise that I can't have the pleasure to hear your Lordship.

312. A living of 500 l. per annum falling in the gift of the late Lord Chancellor T—b—t, Sir R—

W— recommended one of his friends as very deserving of the benefice, whom his lordship approved of. In the interim, the curate who had served the last incumbent many years for poor 30 l. per Ann came up with a petition, signed by many of the inhabitants, testifying his good behaviour, setting forth that he had a wife and seven children to maintain and begging his lordship would stand his friend, that he might be continued in his curacy; and, in consideration of his large family, if he could prevail with the next incumbent to add 10 l. a year, he should for ever pray. His lordship according to his usual goodness, promised to use his utmost endeavours to serve him; and the reverend gentleman, for whom the living was designed, coming soon after to pay his respects, my Lord told him the affair of the curate with this difference only, that he should allow him 60 l. a year, instead of 30 l. The parson, in some confusion, replied, He was sorry that he could not grant his request, for that he had promised the curacy to another, and could not go back from his word. How, says my Lord, have you promised the curacy before you was possessed of the living? Well to keep your word with your friend, if you please I'll give him the curacy, but the living I assure you I'll give to another; and saying this he left him. The next day the poor curate coming to know his destiny, my lord told him, That he had used his endeavours to serve him as to the curacy, but without success, the reverend gentleman having disposed of it before. The curate, with a deep sigh, return'd his lordship thanks for his goodness, and was going to withdraw, when my lord calling him back, said with a smile, Well my friend, 'tis true, I have it not in my power to give you the curacy; but if you will accept of the living, 'tis at your service. The curate, almost surprized to death with joy, in the most moving expression

expressions of gratitude, returned his lordship thanks whose goodness had in a moment raised him and his family from a necessitous condition, to a comfortable state of life.

313. A gentlewoman delighting in plurality of lovers, chanced to admit to her embraces two gentlemen who loved one another entirely, but were unacquainted with each others intrigue. One of them having lain with this gentlewoman one night, lost his ring in the bed, which the other found in it the morning after; the day following, the first sees it on his friend's finger; after a great many arguments about it, they came to understand one another's intrigue; the man who lost it demands his ring, the other refuses; at last it was agreed, that it should be left to the next comer by, who should have the ring; it chanced to be the husband of the woman, who hearing the whole matter, adjudged the ring should belong to him, who owned the sheets: *Mary then, said they, for your excellent judgment you shall have the ring.*

314. A scholar, in College Hall, declaiming, having a bad memory, was at a stand; whereupon in a low voice, he desired one that stood close by, to help him out: No, says the other, *methinks you are out enough already.*

315. A country gentleman riding down Cornhill, his horse stumbled, and threw him at a shop door, the mistress whereof being a pleasant woman, and seeing there was no hurt done: ask'd him, Whether his horse used to serve him so? Yes, said he, whenever he comes to the door of a cuckold; *Lord Sir, said she, I would advise you to go back again, for you will have a hundred falls else before you come to the top of Cheapside.*

316. A gentleman riding near the forest of Which-wood, in Oxfordshire, ask'd a fellow, what that wood was called; he said, Which-wood, Sir. Why,

Why, that wood, said the gentleman. Which wood, Sir: Why, that wood, I tell thee: he still said Which-wood. I think, said the gentleman, thou art as senseless as the wood that grows there: It may be so, replied the other, but you know not Which-wood.

317. A young buxom baggage, with a candle in her hand, was set upon by a hot spur, who by all means must have a bout with her: but she vow'd, if he meddled with her, she would burn him: Will you so? says he, I'll try that, and thereupon blew out the candle, thinking himself safe from the threat: however, not long after, he found she was as good as her word.

318. A physician was wont to say, when he met a friend, *I am glad to see you well*. In troth, Sir, said one, I think you do but dissemble, for the world always goes ill with you when it goes well with your friends.

319. A gentleman falling to decay, shifted where he could: among the rest, he visited an old acquaintance, and stayed with him seven or eight days, in which time the man began to be weary of his guest, and to be rid of him, feigned a falling out with his wife, by which means their fare was very slender: the gentleman perceiving their drift, but not knowing whether to go to better himself, told them, *he had been there seven days, and had not seen any falling out betwixt them before: and that he was resolv'd to stay seven days longer, but he would see them friends again*.

320. A Romish priest, on a fast day, going to officiate at a convent of nuns, received by the way a present of a live carp, which he fixed, as well as he could under his cassock. The women perceiving an unusual motion about his middle expressed great signs of surprize: but the holy priest, desirous to remove all occasions of scandal, addressing himself to them, and holding aside his garment, said, *Good sisters*

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sisters, I pray you be not offended, behold, it is nothing but FASH.

321. A young woman in France, whose brother had embraced the Protestant religion, was convicted of having a bastard child, and obliged to do public penance. The priest, after a severe reprimand, warned her, that as she had made a reparation for her own crime, she would never fall into her brother's. *Oh, Sir, said she, I would rather commit my fault a thousand times, than be once guilty of my brother's.*

322. A simple bumpkin, coming to London, was very much taken with the sight of a chair, or sedan, and bargained with the chairmen to carry him to a place he named. The chairmen observing the curiosity of the clown, to be suitable to the meanness of his habit, privately took out the bottom of the chair, and then put him into it, which, when they took up, the countryman's feet were upon the ground, and as the chairmen advanced, so did he: and to make the better sport, if any place was dirtier in the way than the rest, that they chose to go through: the countryman not knowing but others used to be carried, or rather driven in the same manner, coming to his lodgings, gave them their demand. Returning into the country, he related what rare things he had seen in London, and withal, that he had been carried in a sedan. Sedan! quoth one, What is that? *Why, said he, like our watch house, only it is covered with leather; but were it not for the name of a sedan, a man might as well walk on foot.*

323. An ignorant clown who had the reputation of being a great scholar in the country, because he could write and read, coming to London, and enquiring into all the strange things he saw, at last read on a sign post, Here are horses to be let, 1748. *Jesu, said he, if there are so many horses in one inn, how many are there in the whole city?*

324. One reading a witty preface before a dull book,

book, said. He wonder'd how such a preface came to be match'd so preposterously to such a book. In truth Sir, said another, *I see no reason why they may not be match'd, for I'm sure they are not at all a kin.*

325. One seeing a scholar that look'd very much a-squint, Sure, says he, this man must be more learned than his fellows, for with one cast of his eyes he can read both sides of the book at once.

326. A yoath standing by, whilst his father was at play, observing him to lose a great deal of money, burst into tears, his father ask'd him the reason why he wept? Oh Sir, I have heard that Alexander the Great wept when he heard his father Philip had conquered a great many towns, cities & countries, fearing that he would leave him nothing to win: but I weep the contrary way, fearing you would leave me nothing to lose.

327. A rich citizen of London, in his will, left something considerable to Christ's hospital, but little or nothing to one of his extravagant sons; at the funeral the blew coat boys were order'd in acknowledgement of so great a gift, to sing before the corpse to the grave: as they march'd through Cheap-side, this extravagant son led his mother, who observing the boys made a rest, he open'd his pipes in such a manner, that he was heard almost from one end of the street to the other, and still leading his mother, he continu'd thus singing, till a kinsman came to him, and stopping his mouth, ask'd him his reason for his irreverent and indecent carriage. Why cousin, quoth this never be-good, the boys there at my fathers death sing for something and won't you let me sing for nothing?

328. The famous Mr. Amner, going through a street in Windsor, two boys looked out of a one pair of stairs window, and cryed, There goes Mr. Amner that makes so many bulls, he hearing them, look'd up saying *You rascals. I know you well enough, and if I had you here I'd kick you down stairs.*

329. The

329. The same gentleman crossing the water in a ferry-boat at Datchet, the good man of the ferry being from home, his wife did his office, and not putting in the boat just at the landing place, Mr. Amner at his landing sunk into the mud over his shoes, and going a little further he met with a friend who asked, how he came to dirty. Fore God, replied Mr. Amner, *no man was ever so abused as I have been, for coming over Datchet Ferry, a scurvy woman waterman put over his boat, and landed me clean in the mire.*

330. A gentleman having invited several friends to supper, a couple of rabbits in a dish being under his hand, as he was carving his wife called to him. Husband, prithee give me a flap of the ~~tail~~. The goodman seeming abashed at her words, answered her, How now wife! not before all this company.

331. A poor woman in the country sent her son to a gentleman's house upon some errand or other; the loitering lad staid something too long, looking upon a dog in the wheel that turned the spit: so that when he came home, his mother beat him soundly: execution ended, the boy told her, If she had been there, she would have staid as long as he; and she demanding the reason. he said, *Oh, mother, it would have done you good to have seen how daintily a dog in a wheel spun roast meat.*

332. A bridgroom, the first night he was in bed with his bride, said unto her, When I solicited thy chastity, had'st thou then condescended, I would never have made thee my wife, for I did it only to try thee. Faith, said she, *I did imagine as much but I had been cozened so, three or four times before, and I was resolved to be fooled so no more.*

333. A Lord intended to take in a great part of the common belonging to the town, and he agreed with a carpenter to have it railed in: My Lord, says he, it shall be done, and I think I can save you

you some charges in the business. For, says he, *you but get posts, and I doubt not but all the neighbours round about will find you railing enough.*

334. A young Italian gentleman being led by curiosity into Holland, where having lived some time conversing with the most ingenious, was one day set upon by a protestant minister, who would needs engage him in a controversy about religion. The young gentleman, knowing himself too weak for the encounter, begg'd his diversion, and endeavoured to wave the discourse; but the more he avoided it, the more hotly was he press'd by the minister; whereupon the young Italian, in a very great passion conjur'd him by all that is good, to let him alone in peace with his religion. For, said he, *I cannot embrace yours, and if you make me lose my own, I will never make choice of any other.*

335. A brave dutch captain being commanded by his colonel to go on a dangerous exploit against the French, with forces that were unlikely to atchieve the enterprize, the captain advised his colonel to send but half so many men: *Because,* replied the captain, *they are enough to be knock'd on the head.*

336. A fellow hearing the drums beat up for volunteers for France, in the expedition against the Dutch, imagin'd himself valiant enough, and thereupon listed himself; returning again, he was ask'd by his friends, What exploits he had done there! He said, *That he had cut off one of his enemies legs;* and being told that it had been more honourable & manly to have cut off his head; Oh, said he, *you must know his head was cut off before.*

337. A person of quality coming into a church, to the place, where several of his ancestors were buried, after he had said much in their commendation, and prais'd them for worthy men: Well, said he, *I am resolv'd if I live, to be buried as near them as possible.*

338. An Irishman having been obliged to live

with his master some time in Scotland; when he came home again, some of his companions, ask'd him, How he liked Scotland? *I will tell you now, said he, by Christ I was sick all de while I was dere, and I had lived dere till this time, I had been dead a year ago.*

339. A certain dutches, in a late reign, hearing that a man in a high office, which gave him an opportunity of handling much cash, had married his sept mistress: Good Lord, said she, *that old fellow always robbing the public.*

340. A book being published in queen Elizabeth's time that gave her much offence, she ask'd Bacon if he could find no treason in it? No, Madam, said he, *but abundance of felony, for the author hath stole half his conceits from Tacitus.*

341. A young lady being sick, a physican was sent for to feel her pulse; she being very coy and both he should touch her naked skin, pulled her mock-sleeve over her hand; the doctor observing that, took a corner of his coat, and laid it upon her mock-sleeve; at which a lady that stood by wondered; O Madam, said he, *a linen pulse must always give a woollen physican.*

342. The bishop of D——m had a slovenly custom of keeping one hand always in his breeches; and being one day to bring a bill into the house of peers relating to a provision for officers widows, he came with the papers in one hand, and the other, as usual, in his breeches; and beginning to speak, I have something in my hand, my Lords, said he, for the benefit of the officer's widows. Upon which the duke of Wharton immediately interrupting him ask'd, *In which hand, my lord?*

343. King Charles II. on a certain time paying a visit to Dr Busby, the Doctor is said to have strutted through his school with his hat upon his head, while his Majesty walked complaisantly behind him, with his hat under his arm; but, when

he was taking his leave at the door, the doctor with great humility thus addressed him: *Sir, hope your majesty will excuse my want of respect hitherto; but if my boys were to imagine there was a greater man in the kingdom than myself, I should never be able to rule them.*

344. The Lord Chief Justice Wh——d, of the King's bench in Ireland, being esteemed a very able lawyer, and Judge C——d and B——t but very indifferent ones: Well, said an attorney of the court, No bench was ever supplied like ours, for we have got an hundred judges upon it. An hundred! said another, How can that be? Why, replied the first, *There is a figure of one, and two cyphers.*

345. King Charles the second coming from New Market through Shoreditch to London, observing a wall or bank lately made there of horns, as is common in that road, bid Rochester, who was in the coach with him, take notice of it: Ay, Sir, said he, the citizens seem to have been laying their heads together to mend the way against your majesty came by.

346. One Mr Ash, who was himself a famous punster in Ireland, coming into an inn, desired the landlord to lend him a hand to pull off his great coat: Indeed Sir, said he, I dare not.—Dare not! replied the other, what do you mean by that? You know sir, answered he, there is an Act of parliament against stripping of *Ash*.

347. A cordelier waiting to close the eyes of an Archbishop, as soon as he was dead, having fixed his eyes upon a rich crucifix, slipped it into one of his wide sleeves, saying, *He was crucified for us.*

348. An honest French dragoon in the service of Lewis the Fourteenth, having caught a fellow in bed with his wife, after some words, told him he would let him escape that time; but by God if ever he found him there again, he'd throw him

hat out of the window. Notwithstanding this terrible threat, in a very few days he caught the spark in the same place, and was as good as his word. Knowing what he had done, he posted away to a place, where he knew the king was to be, and throwing himself at his majesty's feet, implored his pardon. The king asked him what his offence was? He told him how he had been abused, and that he had thrown the man's hat out of the window. Well, well, said the king, laughing, I very readily forgive you, considering your provocation, I think you were much in the right to throw his hat out of the window. Yes, and it please you, my liege, said the dragoon, but his head was in it. Was it so? replied the king: well, my word is past.

349. A young and learned gentleman, who was to preach a probation sermon for a very good lecturehip in the city, and had but a bad voice, tho' otherwise an excellent preacher; a friend, when he came out of the pulpit, wished him joy, and said he would certainly carry the election, for he had nobody's voice against him but his own.

350. Some repartees, are, strictly speaking, not to be brought under the head of jests, yet for the readiness of the thought, and the politeness of the expression, are somewhat better. Of this sort was the answer made by Sir Robert Sutton to the late King of Prussia, on his asking him at a review of his tall grenadiers, if he would say an equal number of Englishmen could beat them? No, Sir, answered Sir Robert, I won't pretend to say that, but I believe *half the number would try*.

351. The Cardinal de Retz being out of favour at court, and at last recall'd to kiss the king's hand, the king said to him, Your eminence's hair is grown quite white. To which he replied, *It would make a younger man than I am look grey, to be so long in disgrace with your majesty as I have been.*

352. Upon the death of the famous Moliere, a poet waiting with his epitaph upon the prince of Conde, the prince told him, *he should have been much better pleased, if Moliere had brought him his.*

353. The famous Buchanan being at dinner where the soup was exceeding hot, burnt his mouth and at the same time breaking wind backwards: he is well for you said he, *that you made your escape, for I should have burnt you alive if you had staid.*

354. A Bishop going in great haste to Rome to be cardinalized, missed his promotion, and returned; but got a violent cold by the way; It is no wonder, said one that was told of it, *since he came so far without his hat.*

355. Mr Smith the ordinary of Newgate, in the reign of king William, one of the famous scrupulous drawers of his time, had an impertinent clipper once to deal with. Why, says the fellow, what harm have I done? A parcel of overgrown shillings fell into my hands, and I only par'd off their superfluities. They would have bought but twelve penny worth of beef and turnips at first, and they will buy twelve penny worth of beef and turnips still. Ay, but hard you my friend cries the ordinary, what is it to clip a thing, but to pare it round? And what is paring round called in Scripture, but circumcision? And who, under the evangelical dispensation, dares practise circumcision, but one that has actually renounced the Christian religion, and is a Jew, a most obstinate and perverse Jew in his heart? Upon this the poor clipper threw himself at his feet, owned the heinousness of his sin, confessed that sabbath breaking had brought him to it, and wept like a church spout.

356. A gentleman being very drunk, came to a friend's house, and told him, he came three miles on purpose to sup with him; to whom the other answered, *He was greatly obliged to him, since he came so far to see him, before he came to himself.*

357. A Scotch parson in the rump time, in his babbling prayer, said, *Laird bless the grand council, the parliament, and grant they may all hang together.* A country fellow standing by, said, *Yes, yes, with all my heart, and the sooner the better; and I'm sure it is the prayers of all good people.* But friends, said Sawney, *I don't mean as that fellow means, but pray they may all hang together in accord and concord.* No matter what cord, replied the other, *so it is but a strong cord.*

358. An honest Highlander, walking along Holbourn, heard a voice cry, *Rogue Scot, Rogue Scot;* his northern blood fir'd at the insult, drew his broad sword, looking round him on every side to discover the object of his indignation; at last he found that it came from a parrot, perch'd in a balcony within his reach; but the generous Scot disdaining to stain his trusty blade with such ignoble blood, put up his sword again, with a sour smile, saying, *Gin ye were a man, as ye're a green geuse, I would split your veem.*

359. Mr James Kirkton preaching upon Jezebel, said, *That well favoured whore, what became of her, Sirs? she fell from a window arse over head, and her black bottom was discovered: You may all guess what the beholders saw, beloved, a black sight to be sure.*

360. The same teacher, preaching on the poverty of the people of God, gave this remarkable instance; Brethren, says he, critics with their frim frames, and whitty whatties, may imagine an hundred reasons for Abraham's going out of the land of Chaldea; but I will tell you what was always my opinion; I believe Abraham, poor man, *was forced to run out of the land of Chaldea for debt.*

361. Another Scotch parson preaching upon these words, *Resist the devil and he will fly away from you,* began thus: My beloved, you are all here to day, but wot ye who is among ye; Even the mickle horned devil. Ye cannot see him, but by the eye of

saith I see him. But some of you say, What shall we do with him, now we have him here? How shall we destroy him? We will hang him. Alas my beloved, there are not so many tows in the parish as will hang him, he is as light as a feather. Then some of you will say, We will drown him, Humph, my beloved there is too much cork in his arse, he s as souple as an eel, he will not sink. Others of you will say, We will burn him. Na, na, sirs, you may scald yourselves, but ye canna burn him, for all the fire in hell could never yet sing a hair of his tail. Now, Sirs, ye canna find a way among you all to kill him, but I will find it. What way will this be, Sirs? We shall even shoot him. Wherewith shall we shoot him? We shall shoot him with the bible. Now sirs, I shall shoot him presently. So, presenting the bible, as foldiers do their muskets, he cries out, *Toot, toot, toot*: Now he is shot: there lies the foul thief as dead as a herring.

362. The reverend Mr Brodie preaching one day at the kirk in Edinburgh on hell torments, represented them to be intolerable, by the extreme cold they suffered there. And it being at that time very cold weather, one of his congregation after sermon took upon him to ask him the reason of his so doing when all the reverend divines had preached it up to be the reverse. O sir, said he, I had good reason for if I had told them it was hot, I should have had them all run away to hell to warm themselves.

An Irishman having a looking glass in his hand shut his eyes and placed it before his face; another asking him, Why he did so? Upon my shoul, says teague, *it is to see how I look when I am asleep.*

364. Two gentlemen standing together, as a young lady passed by them, said one, *There goes the handsomest woman I ever saw.* She hearing him, turned back, and seeing him very ugly, said, *I wish I could in return say as much by you.* So you may, by G— Madam, said he, *and lie as I did.*

365. A man and his dog named Cuckold, going out together in the evening, in returning home the dog ran in a doors first: Oh mother, says the boy, Cuckold's come: Nay then, says the mother, *your father's not far off, I am sure.*

366. A country curate being one friday in Lent to examine his young catechumens, and the bell tolling for prayers, he was obliged to leave a game of all-fours unfinished, in which he had the advantage; but told his antagonist he would soon dispatch his audience, and see him out. Now for fear any tricks should be play'd with the cards in his absence, he put them in his cassock; and asking one of the children how many commandments there were, which the boy not readily answering, by accident one of the cards dropp'd out of his sleeve. He had the presence of mind to bid the boy take it up, and tell him what card it was: which he readily did: then turning to the parents of the child. *Are you not ashamed,* said he, *to pay so little regard to the eternal welfare of your children as not to teach them their commandments? I suspected your neglect, & brought this card with me to detect your immorality, in teaching your children to know their cards before their commandments*

367. A notorious bawd of Clerkenwell, having left in her will a handsome sum of money to be given to the Rev Doctor Lee, to preach her funeral sermon, but on condition he should say nothing but what was well of her. Her executors accordingly waited on the doctor, and acquainted him with the conditions of the will, who being very much surprised at such a request, desired them to call again, and he would consider of it; soon after they came again, when he agreed that on the money's being paid directly, he would preach it the following Sunday. The doctor kept his word and taking the text *Blessed are they &c.* made an excellent sermon on a well spent life, and the reward they would have in the

the next world: concluding, Dear friends said he as for the deceased, of whom I'm now going to speak (which caused great attention from the congregation) all I shall say of her is, That she was born at *Chamberwell*, lived great part of her time in *Bride-well*, and died at *Clerkenwell*, and at last has done well, then let us pray that she may fare well, &c.

358. The duke of Guise, after a battle fought between Francis I. and Charles V. reproached one Villandry, that though he was in complete armour yet he had not been seen in fight. I'll make it out answer'd Villandry boldly, that I was there, and in a place where you durst not be seen. The duke nettled at this reproach, threatened to punish him severely; but he appeased him with these words: *I was my lord, with the baggage, where your courage would not suffer you to go.*

369. Herman was so covetous according to the testimony of Lucilius, that dreaming one night he had spent some money, hang'd himself in the morning; but Dinarchus Philo quitted the design he had once taken to hang himself, because he grudg'd the expence of a rope.

370. A French courtier, who was a little suspected of imbecillity, one day meeting the poet Benferand who had often jeer'd him: Sir, said he, for all your silly jests, my wife was brought to bed of a boy two days ago. *Faith*, replied Benferand, *I never questioned your wife.*

371. A beautiful young creature of thirteen years of age, being to be married to a strapping fellow of thirty, the young lady's mother was severely rallied at a tea table conversation, for consenting to such an unequal match: The old gentlewoman said in her defence, *That she had much rather her daughter should smart than itch.*

372. Dr M——d coming out of Tom's coffee-house, an impudent broken apothecary met him at the door, and accosted him with a request to lend him

him five guineas : Sir, said the doctor, I am surpris-
ed that you should apply to me for such a favour,
who do not know you ; O dear sir, replied the a-
pothecary, it is for that very reason, for those who
do, won't lend me a farthing.

373. An old superstitious Roman, who had his
buskins rat eaten, consulted Cato in a grave manner
what such an accident might portend. Cato bid him
set his mind at rest, for there would come no mis-
chief on't. But says the philosopher, if your buskins
had eaten the rats it might have been dangerous.

374. An archbishop finding fault with some ac-
tions of queen Elisabeth, brought her good argu-
ments out of the scriptures, to prove that they fa-
voured more of the politician than the christian. I
see, said she, my lord you have read the scriptures,
but not the book of Kings.

375. In a visit queen Elisabeth made to the fa-
mous lord chancellor Bacon, at a small country seat
which he had built for himself before his preferment
she asked him, how it came he had made himself so
small a house ? *It is not I, madam, answered he, who
have made my house too small for myself, but your ma-
jesty, who have made me too big for my house.*

376. Mr T — s C — r the comedian, coming one
day to his father, begged him to let him have an
hundred pounds, which would make him perfectly
easy in his affairs. Why then, said the father, it is
very strange you can't live upon your salary, your
benefit and other advantages, when I was of your
age, I never spent any of my father's money. I do
not know that, answered the son, but I am sure
you have spent a great many hundred pounds of
my father's money.

377. An ordinary country fellow being called as
an evidence in a court of judicature, in a cause
where the terms of *Mortgager* and *Mortgagee* were
frequently used, the judge asked the countryman if
he knew the difference between the *Mortgager* and
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the *Mortgagee*? Yes, said he, it is the same as between the *Nodder* and the *Noddee*. How is that? replied the judge, Why you sit there my lord, said the clown, and I nod at you: then *I* am the *Nodder* and your lordship is the *Noddee*.

378. Two fellows meeting, one asked the other, Why he look'd so sad? *I* have very good reason for it, answered the other: poor Jack such a one, the greatest chroncy and best friend *I* had in the world was hanged about two days ago. What had he done? said the first. Alas replied the other, he did no more than you or *I* should have done on the like occasion, he found a bridle on the road, and took it up. What, answered the other, hang a man for taking a bridle! that's hard indeed. To tell the truth of the matter, said the other, there was a horse ty'd to the other end of it-

379. It was a fine saying of my lord Russel, who was beheaded in the reign of King Charles, when on the scaffold he delivered his watch to Dr Gilbert Burnet, afterwards bishop of Salisbury: Here, sir, said he, take this it shews time. *I* am going into eternity, and shall no longer have any need of it.

380. In the days of yore, said Winefred an English bishop, the priests were golden priests, and the chalices were wooden ones: But now, O temporal! O mores! how are things overturned! we have golden chalices and wooden priests.

381. Queen Elizabeth having taken notice of the duke de Villa Medina's gallant behaviour at a tournament, that she would absolutely know who his mistress was: Villa Medina excused himself a while but at last yielding to her curiosity, he promised to send her her picture. The next morning he sent her majesty a packet; wherein the queen finding nothing but a small looking-glass, presently understood the Spaniard's meaning.

It must needs be confessed, that this was a very ingenious contrivance: and there's no question but this

this great and witty princess, who was so well pleased to be counted beautiful, was well enough satisfied with this dumb declaration of love.

382. A dyer in a court of justice, being ordered to hold up his hand that was all black; Take off your glove friend, said the judge to him. *Put on your spectacles, my lord*, answered the dyer.

383. A sober good woman who was treating with a maidservant about work and wages, asked her, among other Questions, What religion she was of? Alack a day, madam, said the poor innocent girl, I never trouble my head about that; for religion, I thought was only for gentlefolks.

384. Admiral Chatillon being on a holiday gone to hear mass in the Dominican friars chapel a poor fellow begg'd his charity, just as he was most intent on his devotions. He felt in his pockets, and gave him several pieces of gold, without counting them or minding what they were. The considerable alms so dazzled the beggars eyes that he was amazed at it. As M. Chatillon was going out of the church-door, where the poor man waited for him; Sir, said he, shewing him what he had given him. I cannot tell whether you intended to give me so large a sum; if not, I am very ready to return it. The admiral wondering at the honesty of the man, said, *I did not indeed honest man, intend to have given you so much; but since you have the generosity to offer to return it, I will have the generosity to desire you to keep it, and there are five pieces more for you.*

385. A certain captain, who had made a greater figure than his fortune could well bear, and the regiment not being paid as was expected, was forced to put off a great part of his equipage. A few days after as he was walking by the roadside, he saw one of his soldiers sitting lousing himself under a hedge: *What are you doing there Tom?* said the officer, *Why faith, sir,* answered the soldier, *I am following your example, getting rid of part of my retinue.*

386. One who had formerly been rich, but had squandered away his estate, and left himself no furniture in the house but a sorry bed, a little table, a few broken chairs, and some other odd things, seeing a parcel of thieves, who knew not his condition breaking into his house in the night, he cried out to them, Are not you a damn'd pack of fools, to think to find any thing here in the dark, where I can find nothing by day-light.

387. A man of quality in the country, whose wife had not the best reputation in the world, and whose children had been very short liv'd, looking earnestly one day upon a peasant sitting at his own door, with five or six lusty boys about him. Prithee honest fellow, said my lord how do you poor folks do to get so many brave healthy children, when I who am rich, and able to maintain them handsomely, can get none that will live? Why an't please your lordship, answered the pumpkin, we poor folks e'en take pains to get them ourselves.

388. A bishop of Servia in Italy came in great haste to the pope, and told him, that it was generally reported his Holiness had done him the honour to make him the governor of Rome. How, said the pope, don't you know that fame spreads a great many false reports, and I dare say you'll find this one of them.

389. A Gascon one day reading in company a letter he had just receiv'd from his father, who therein acquainted him, that he was threatned with an assessment, which would be very hard upon him, whose whole estate was not above two hundred livres per annum. The sum was written in figures thus (200). But the Gascon reading two thousand instead of two hundred; a lady that stood behind him, & read the letter without uttering a word, so that he could not perceive her, hearing him say two thousand: Hold, hold, sir, said she, there are but two hundred. Let me be hang'd, said he, turning about to her, if
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the coxcomb, (meaning his father,) has not forgot a cypher.

390. Another Gascon officer, who had served under Henry IV. King of France, and not having received any pay for a considerable time, came to the King, and confidently said to him, *Sir, three words with your Majesty. Money or discharge. Four with you, answered his majesty, neither one nor t'other.*

391. A certain Italian having wrote a book upon the art of making gold, dedicated it to Pope Leo X. in hopes of a good reward. His Holiness finding the man constantly following him, at length gave him a large empty purse, saying, *Sir, since you know how to make gold, you can have no need of any thing but a purse to put it in.*

392. A Scotch pedlar, being very much distressed for a lodging, came at last to a hut, where with some difficulty he prevailed on his host to put him to bed to a couple of countrymen, that were just got in before: They were fast asleep, and Sawney thrust in between them, in hopes of warming himself; his bedfellows being jolly fellows, the bed none of the largest, and the night very cold, they endeavoured to keep as much in the middle of it as possible, which made them squeeze the poor Scot extremely; who was very uneasy in his post, and wanting to do what no body could do for him, and being unwilling to get up lest they should refuse his entrance again, ply'd his water-engine on him that was in the front; at which the fellow awakened, and ask'd the pedlar what he was about: *Huzo* says Sawney, *you are well off, for I am doing t'other thing upon t'other.*

393. A countryman seeing a lady in the street in a very odd dress, as he thought, begg'd her to be pleas'd to tell him what she call'd it. The lady a little surprized at the question, call'd him impertinent fellow. Nay, I hope no offence, Madam cry'd Hodge, I am a poor countryman, just going out of town, and my wife always expects I should bring her

an account of the newest fashion, which occasioned my enquiring what you call this that you wear. It is a sack, said she, in a great pet. *I have heard*, reply'd the countryman, (heartily nettled at her behaviour) of a pig in a poke, but never saw a sow in a sack before.

394. Of all the disinterested professors I have ever heard of, I take the boatswain of Dampier's ship to be the most impudent, but the most excusable. You are to know, that in the wild searches that navigation was making: they happned to be out at sea, far distant from any shore, in want of all the necessities of life: insomuch, that they began to look, not without hunger, on each other. The boatswain was a fat healthy, fresh fellow, and attracted the eyes of the whole crew. In such an extreme necessity, all forms of superiority were laid aside. The captain and lieutenant were safe only by being carrion; and the unhappy boatswain in danger only by being worth eating. To be short, the company were unanimous, and the boatswain must be cut up. He saw their intention, and desired he might speak a few words before they proceeded; which being permitted, he delivered himself as follows;

Gentlemen sailors,

‘ Far be it that I should speak it for any private interest of my own, but I take it, that I should not die with a good conscience, if I did not confess to you that I am not sound. I say, Gentlemen, justice and the testimony of a good conscience, as well as love of my country, to which I hope you will all return, oblige me to own, that black Kate of Deqiford has made me very unfit to eat; and speak it with shame, I am afraid, Gentleman, shall poison you.

The speech had a good effect in the boatswain's favour; but the surgeon of the ship protested he had

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cured him very well, and offered to eat the first steak himself.

The boatswain replied, (like an orator, with a true notion of the people, and in hopes to gain time) that he was heartily glad if he could be for their service, and thanked the surgeon for his information: however, said he, I must inform you for your own good, that I have ever since my cure, been very thirsty and dropical; therefore I presume it will be much better to tap me, and drink me off, then eat me at once, and have no man in the ship fit to be drank afterwards. As he was going on with his harangue, a fresh gale arose, and gave the crew hopes of a better repast at the nearest shore, to which they arrived next morning.

395. A proud parson, and his man, riding over a common, saw a shepherd tending his flock, and having on a new coat, the parson ask'd him in a haughty tone, who gave him that coat. The same, said the shepherd, that cloathed you, the parish. The parson, nettled at this, rode on murmuring a little way and then bade his man go back and ask the shepherd if he'd come and live with him, for he wanted a fool. The man going accordingly to the shepherd, delivered his master's message, and concluded as he was ordered, that his master wanted a *fool*. *Why are you going away then*, said the shepherd. *No*, answered the other. *Then you may tell your master*, reply'd the shepherd, *his living can't maintain three of us*.

396. An old woman who had a very handsome daughter, had a great jealousy and fear, that one Mr John Turner, a young fellow in the neighbourhood had a great mind to be too busy with her; and as she apprehended, watching them pretty narrowly, she caught them in the very fact upon the bed in the garret; upon which she haloo'd out, with a dismal grone, O! John Turner! John Turner! No, I think, mother, said he, *She lies very well already*.

397. The Duke of — — asked a friend, who he thought had undertaken the most difficult task, Mr Whiston, in his attempts to discover the longitude, or Mr Lisle to find the philosopher's stone: the friend answered, that he could not tell which was the most arduous task of the two, which those gentlemen had undertaken, but he was sure that he had himself engaged in a much more difficult work than either of them. What is that? said his grace. *I have been these six years endeavouring to prevail on you to pay your debts*, reply'd his friend.

398. A schoolmaster asking one of his boys, in a sharp wintry morning, what was Latin for cold, the boy hesitated a little; What firrah, said he, can't you tell? Yes, yes, replied the boy, *I have it at my finger ends*.

399. An old lady being at table, and mumbling a piece of brawn that was very horny, for a long time, at length by its elasticity, it jumped out of her mouth upon the plate of a young gentleman, who sat on the opposite side of the table; but he not seeing from whence it came, quickly eat it up. Good Lord said the old lady, what a fine thing it is to be young and have one's teeth, I have been mumbling and tumbling that piece of brawn in my mouth this half hour to no purpose, and that young gentleman has chewed and swallowed it in a moment.

400. Old Johnson the player, who was not only a very good actor, but a good judge of painting, and remarkable for making many dry jokes, was shewn a picture, done by a very indifferent hand, but much commended, and ask'd his opinion of it. Why truly, said he, the painter is a very good painter, and observes the Lord's commandments. What do you mean by that, Mr Johnson? said one who stood by. Why, I think, answered he, that he hath not made to himself *the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth*,

401. A gentleman, whose wife complained a little of his manhood, consented that she should make choice of any one, so that it was but one, to do family duty in his stead: she chose the coachman, a sturdy fellow; but by some accident the reverend chaplain came to suspect the intrigue that was carrying by his patron's Lady, & was resolved to watch her waters; it was not long before he had an opportunity, by peeping thro' a key-hole, of being entirely confirm'd in his suspicion, and being a very conscientious man, he thought it his duty to acquaint her husband with it: he told him he could not see him abused in so vile, so abominable a manner, without letting him know it. Hush, hush, Doctor, said the Gentleman, *the thing is a secret; I give my coachman twenty pounds a year extraordinary for that very service, God take me,* cried the conscientious parson, *why would you not speak to me? I would have done it for half the money, and have thank'd you, too.*

402. The late sir John Tash was a famous wine-merchant, and sold great quantities of that liquor; but was supposed to make it chiefly without much of the juice of the grape, therefore Alderman Parsons meeting him one day, saluted him by the name of brother brewer. I deal in wine, said Sir John, Mr Alderman, and am no brewer. Yes by G — d, replied the other, but I know you are, and can brew more by an inch of candle, than I can with a chaldron of coals.

403. Jemmy Spiller, one of the jocular comedians, going one day through Rag-Fair, a place where they sell second hand goods, cheapened a leg of mutton, he saw hung up there, at a butcher's stall. The butcher told him it was a groat a pound, *Are you not an unconcionable fellow,* said Spiller, *to ask such a price when one may buy a new one for that in Clare market.*

404. A Gentleman having a servant with a very thick skull, used often to call him the *King of fools.*

I wish, said the fellow one day, you could make your words good, I should then be the greatest monarch in the world.

405. A lawyer being sick, made his last will, and gave all his estate to fools and madmen: being asked the reason for so doing. *From such said he, I had it, and to such I give it again.*

406. A thief being brought to Tyburn to be executed, the ordinary of Newgate, in taking his last confession, asked him if he was not sorry for having committed the robbery for which he was going to suffer? The criminal answered, *Yes, but that he was more sorry for not having stole enough to bribe the jury.*

407. A certain poor unfortunate Gentleman was so often pulled by the sleeve by the bailiffs, that he was in continual apprehension of them, and going one day through Tavistock street, his coat sleeve, as he was swinging it along in a hurry, happened to hitch upon the iron spike of one of the rails; whereupon he immediately turn'd about, in a great surprize, and cry'd out, *At whose suit, Sir? at whose suit?*

408. Colonel Pride, the brewer, a precise fanatic, in the time of the usurpation, sitting at the quarter sessions as a justice of the peace, a reverend old Gentlewoman was indicted for a bawd, but she standing strongly upon her defence, and protesting she never had kept any such house. *Huswife! huswife!* said he, you have kept a bawdy house these twenty years to my knowledge. To your knowledge, brother? said another of the worshipful justices, *noy then we need no other evidence.*

409. A soldier in the late wars, a little before an engagement, found a horse shoe, and stuck it in his girdle; shortly after, in the heat of the action, a bullet came and hit him upon that part. Well, said he, *I find a little armour will serve a turn, if it be put in the right place.*

410. An impudent ridiculous fellow, being laughed at by all who came in his company, told some of his acquaintance, That he had a happy quality of laughing at all who laughed at him. Then said one of them, *you lead the merriest life of any man in Christendom.*

411. Alexander the great ask'd Dionesdes, a famous pirate, who was brought prisoner to him, Why he was so bold as to rob and plunder in his seas? He answered. That he did it for his profit, and as Alexander himself was used to do it. *But because I do it with one single galley, I am called a pirate; but you, Sir, who do it with a great army are called a king.* This bold answer so pleased Alexander that he had him set at liberty.

412. Two persons, male and female, having at once met with three irresistible temptations, time, place, and consent, made use of the occasion, and were very wickedly busy; but the wench being more troubled about her credit than conscience, cries to him, *If this should come out I am utterly undone;* to which the young fellow answered, 'And if it does not I am sure I shall be utterly undone.'

413. A Nobleman having presented King Charles II. with a fine horse, his Majesty bade Killigrew, who was present, tell him his age, whereupon Killigrew goes and examines the tail: What are you doing, said the king? this is not the place to find out his age. O! Sir, said Killigrew, your Majesty knows one should never look a gift horse in the mouth.

414. A young man who was a very great talker, making a bargain with Isocrates to be taught by him, Isocrates asked double the price that his other scholars gave him: and the reason, said he, 'is, that I must teach thee two sciences, one to speak, and the other to hold your tongue.'

415. A captain, not far from St James's, having an amorous design upon his landlady, a comely

ly young milliner, to give her a hint of what he'd be at, clapp'd a guinea on one of his eyes, and stared her in the face with the other. The doxy, presently taking the meaning, Sir said she, *Love, I have been told, is not blind of one only, but both eyes.*

416. A certain couple going to Dunmow in Essex, to claim the flitch of bacon, which is to be given to every married pair, who can swear they have had no dispute, nor once repented their bargain in a year and a day, the steward ready to deliver it, asked where they would put it; the husband produced a bag, and told him, *in that—That,* answered the steward, *it is not big enough to hold it; So I told my wife,* reply'd the good man; *and I believe we have had an hundred words about it.* Ay said the steward, *but they were not such as will butter any cabbage to eat with this bacon;* and so hangs the flitch up again.

417 Two Gentlemen, one named Chambers the other Garret, riding by Tyburn, says the first, *This is a very pretty tenement, if it had but a garret.* You fool, says Garret, *don't you know there must be Chambers first.*

418 Two Gentlemen, one named Woodcock, the other Fuller walking together, happened to see an owl; says the last, *That bird is very much like a Woodcock,* You are very wrong, says the first, *for it's Fuller in the head, Fuller in the eyes, and Fuller all over.*

419. An arch boy having taken notice of his school master's often reading a chapter in Corinthians, wherein is this sentence, *we shall all be changed in the twinkling of an eye,* privately erased the letter C in the word Changed. The next time his master read it, *we shall all be hanged in the twinkling of an eye,*

420. A certain great man, who had been a serious party-man, and most surprisngly changing
sides

sides, by which he obtained a coronet, was soon after at cards at a place where Lady T——nd was, and complaining in the midst of the game, that he had great pain in his side, I thought your Lordship had no side, said she. Yes, but I have, answered my Lord, and a back-side too. Have you so? replied my Lady, 'every body knows your wife has one.

421. A Gentlemang living in Jamaica not long ago, had a wife not of the most agreeable humour in the world; however as an indulgent husband, he had bought her a fine pad, which soon after gave her a fall that broke her neck. Another Gentleman in the same neighbourhood, blessed likewise with a termagant spouse, ask'd the widower if he would sell his wife's pad: for he had a great fancy for it, and he would give him what he would for it. No, said the other, *I don't care to sell it, for I am not sure that I shan't marry agdin,*

422. A Gentleman sitting by Mrs W——ff——n at Lord Lovat's trial, took notice to her of Fanny M——'s being at a little distance from them. O! said she, I suppose Fanny 'has an eye upon the whole house of commons. And I dare answer for her. Madam, reply'd the Gentleman, if she has, her eye's no bigger than her belly.'

423. A poor woman, with half a dozen children at her heels, ask'd alms of a Gentlewoman in the street; I think, said the Gentlewoman, that being so poor, you might find something else to do, and I wonder you are not aham'd to get so many children. Alas! Madam, reply'd the good woman, you don't consider, that we poor folks have very often *nothing else for our breakfast, dinner and supper.*

424. A scholar of Dr Busby coming into a parlour where the Doctor had laid down a fine bunch of grapes for his own eating, takes it up, and says aloud, 'I publish the banns between these grapes and my mouth; if any one knows any just cause
' or

for impediment why these two should not be joined together, let them declare it.'

The Doctor being but in the next room, overheard all that was said, and coming into the school, he order'd the boy who had eaten his grapes to be taken up, or, as they call'd it, hors'd on another boy's back; but before he proceeded to the usual discipline, he cried out aloud, as the delinquent had done; 'I publish the banns between my rod and this boy's breech, if any one knows any just cause or impediment why these too should not be joined together, let them declare it.' I forbid the banns, cried the boy, Why so? said the Doctor. Because the parties are not agreed, reply'd the boy. Which answer so pleased the Doctor, who loved to find any readiness of wit in his scholars, that he order'd the boy to be set down.

425. A certain person often bidding people kiss his a —, and using the same word very frequently, was told by a wit, that he put him in mind of the picture of the snake in the almanack, that always carried his tail in his mouth.

426. The late Mr D — t, the player, a man of great humanity, as will appear by the story, having had an intrigue with his landlady's maid, who being used ill, or, in plain terms, got with child by him, took an opportunity to go into his chamber one afternoon, and cut her throat with one of his razors, of which an account being brought to him, behind the scenes, during the time of the play, the same night: D — t, with great concern and emotion, cried out '*Zoons! I hope it was not with my best razor.*'

427. Joe Haines, the player, being asked, what could transport Mr Collier into so blind a zeal, for the general suppression of the stage, when only some particular authors had abused it: whereas the stage, he could not but know, was generally allowed when rightly conducted, to be a delightful method of mending the morals? For that reason, replied

Haines,

Haines, Collier is, by profession, a moral mender himself, and two of a trade, you know can never agree.

428. The same player one morning meeting Tom Durfey, the poet, in the street, Tom, who had a very stinking breath, run his head into Joe's face, as most people who have that imperfection are apt to do, whereupon Joe begged him to keep at a little more distance, but Durfey would still be mighty close in his confabulation, upon which cried Joe, Nay, then I must stand upon my defence; so drawing out his sword, and seeing a sir-reverence lying under a wall, he stuck it upon the point of it, Now, Sir, said he, keeping it at arm's length, I can talk to you, and we are pretty much upon a par.

429. Some Gentlemen being at a tavern together, for want of better diversion, one purposed play, but said another of the company I have fourteen good reasons against gaming. What are those, said another? In the first place, answered he, *I have no money*: Oh! said the first, if you had four hundred reasons, you need not name another.

430. A parson, in the country, taking his text in St Matthew, Chap. viii. ver. 14. *And Peter's wife's mother lay sick of a fever*, preached for three Sunday's together on the same subject: soon after two country fellows going cross the church-yard, and hearing the bell toll, one asked the other, who it was for? Nay, I can't tell; perhaps, replied he, *it is for Peter's wife's mother, for she has been sick of a fever these three weeks*.

432. The Hon. Mr L— one morning, at the late Sir Robert Walpole's levee, as I sat by them, asked John Lawton for a pinch of snuff, who told him he had none in his box, for he seldom took any, but now and then to keep him awake at church. That, said the other, *is the most improper thing you can do there; for it quite destroys the natural operation of the sermon*.

432. I remember in the reign of the late Queen Anne,

Anne, when disputes ran high between Whig and Tory, some persons suffer'd party to mix in every their minutest action. A tory would not cock his hat in the same manner that a whig did, nor a whig Lady patch her face on the same side that the tory Ladies patch theirs. A pleasant instance of this strict adherence to party in trivial affairs, was Dick W—l, who, being chose into Parliement on the tory interest, was resolved to do nothing but what was on that side. The house a few days after he took his seat in it, happening to sit late, a motion was made for candles to be brought in, which being put to the vote, Dick pulled a high flying member, who sat near him, by the sleeve, and ask'd if the candles were for the church? And being answered in the affirmative, very readily gave his voice for them, which otherwise he would not have done.

423. A young fellow not quite so wise as Solomon, eating some Cheshire cheese full of mites, one night at the tavern, Now, said he; I have done as much as Sampson, for I have slain my thousands and my ten thousands. Yes, by G—d, answered one of the company, and *with the same weapon too, the jaw bone of an ass.*

434. Poor Joe Miller, going one day along the Strand, an impudent Derby captain came swaggering up to him, and thrust between him and the wall. *I don't use to give the wall, said he, to every jackanape. But I do,* said Joe; and so made way for him.

435. The late Lady F——w——r, meeting Con P——s one day, How goes trade, Con, said she? Faith, very bad, Madam, answered the other, *it is almost spoiled, for every one follows it now.*

436. When the late Duke of——went over Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, he took an excellent man cook over with him, but they had not been there above a month, but finding his grace kept a very scurvy house, he gave him warning. What's the reason, said the Duke, that you have a mind to leave

leave me? Why, if I continue with your excellency much longer, answered the cook, I shall quite forget my trade.

437. The late famous Arthur Moor, who was much in favour with the tory minister, in the latter part of Queen Anne's reign, had a Lady who was reckon'd a woman of great wit and humour, but of political principles quite opposite to those of her husband. after the death of the Queen, when it was talked of as if the late ministers would have been called to account, the Lord B——ke meeting Mrs Moor one day, in a visit, Well, Madam, said he, you hear how terribly we are threatened, you'll come, I hope, and see me, when I go to Tower hill? Upon, my word; my Lord, said she, *I should be extremely glad to do it; but I believe I shall be engaged another way, for I am told my jnub, (the name by which she always called her husband) will be obliged to go the same day to Tyburn.*

438. The same Lady coming home one evening, told her husband she wished him joy, for she heard he was to be made a Lord. (*This was before the death of Queen Anne.*) And pray, said he, what did they say was to be my title? My Lord Tariff, replied she, which was a sneer upon him, for having been engaged in settling a Tariff of trade which he was thought well skill'd in. And why don't you, when you hear any one abuse your husband, spit in their face? said he. No, I thank you answered the Lady, *I don't intend to spit myself into a consumption.*

439. The son of the aforesaid Gentleman and Lady, the late Mr James Moor Smith, inheriting some portion of his mother's humour, undertook to write a comedy, which was called the Rival Modes, against the third night of which, he was very solicitous in disposing of his benefit tickets, tho he had just before a very handsome fortune left him by a grand father, but had been pretty free with it; and coming one day, dressed in black velvet, to a Lady

of his acquaintance, he was very earnest with her to take some, even tho' she had partly refused him before; Lord, Mr Moor, said she, this suit of cloaths you have on looks very well, and who would have thought it is only beggar's velvet?

440. A young Lady of a pretty high spirit, who was just about entering into the marriage state, told her gallant, that she would never bring herself to say Obey, and was resolved she would not. When the ceremony was performing, and she was to repeat that word, she was for mincing the matter, and cried Honour and bey: Nay, Madam, said the parson you must say Obey; I cannot say you are married, if you do not speak the word as the office directs: but still she would say only as she had done before, and the parson again reproving her; Let her alone doctor, said the husband, let her only say bey, if she has a mind to it now, and I'll make her cry O at night.

441. A Gentleman having a very pretty woman to his wife in a certain country place, could not forbear being a little jealous of her having too great an intimacy with, or at least casting too favourable an eye upon a young captain in the neighbourhood, and being obliged to go a journey from home, for two or three days, his head run so upon the captain and his wife, that after he was got four or five miles the roughest and dirtiest part of the whole way, he calls to his man, and orders him to go back to his wife, and tell her, that for some particular reasons he desired she would not see the capt. in his absence. The man was very much displeased at being sent back again, through the dirt on such an idle errand, and having a little more discernment than his master knew, that forbidding a woman to do a thing was often times the readiest way to egg her on it, resolved not to carry the message; But when he came home and his lady with great surprize asked him the reason of his return so soon, and if his master was come to any hurt? he answered her no, but that he had

sent him back with a very odd message to her, he could not imagine the meaning of it: He desires said he, Madam, of all love and kindness, that you will not ride upon our great dog, Ball, during his absence. Ride upon Ball! cried she, the man's mad sure, Well, well, you may tell him, I shall hardly disobey his commands.

But the man was no sooner out of sight, but she calls to her maid, and tells her of the ridiculous orders her husband had sent her; and that Harry came back four or five miles upon no other account; for my part continued she, such a thing would never have come into my head, if he had not taken such pains to have it put there, and now, methinks, I long to ride upon Ball. Do you think he can carry me, Betty? I shall never be easy till I try.

The maid, who was always ready to assist her mistress in any thing, to gratify her inclinations, told her, she would go and bring the dog to her, and that she verily believed he would carry her.

Ball being brought forth, and his mistress mounted on his back, begun to curvet and prance round the hall, but unfortunately threw his rider with her head against the frame of the great old tish oned table, which gave her such a cut in the forehead, that she was obliged to have it plaister'd and bound up with a linen cloth, which she could not get well enough to leave off before her husband returned, who enquiring with much concern, into the occasion of it; *Why, what did you send me word for* said she, *that I should not ride upon Ball?* The man that stood close by his master; whispered in his ear, *Better so, Sir, than worse.*

442. A certain officer in the guards telling one night, in company with Joe Miller, of several wonderful things he had seen abroad, among the rest he told the company he had seen a pike caught that was six foot long. *That's a trifle,* says Joe, *I have seen a half pike, in England, longer by a foot, and yet not worth two pence.*

M O R A L S E N T E N C E S

WIT is a justness of thought, and a facility of expression ; or, in the midwives phrase, a perfect conception with an easy delivery.

Wit depends very much on the circumstance of time and place. It must describe its proper circumference, and not going beyond it, lest, (like little boys when they straggle out of their own parish) it wander to places where it is not known, and be lost.

Not to laugh with honesty, when nature prompts, or folly (which is second nature) is but a knavish, hypocritical way of making a mask for one's own face.

Weak heads, like weak stomachs, immediately throw out what they received last ; and what they read floats upon the surface of the mind, like oil upon water, without incorporating.

When men imagine others entertain some esteem for their abilities, they often expose all their imperfections and foolish works to the disparagement of the little wit they were thought masters of.

Silence is the surest friend of him who stands in distrust of himself.

A poet's success at first, like a gamester's fortune at first, is like to make him a loser at last, and to be undone by his good fortune and merit.

If a book can't answer for itself to the public, it is to no purpose for its author to do it.

The chattering of monies is a better noise than a concert of senseless mirth.

Great dealers in wit, like those in trade, take least pains to set off their goods, while the haberdashers of small wit spare for no decorations or ornaments.

Praise to a young wit, is like rain to a tender flower ; if it be moderately bestowed it cheers and
revives

revives; but if too lavishly, overcharges and depresses him.

There are few persons so wise as to prefer the gentle reproaching counsel that avails them, before the praises which betray them.

Praise is a kind of delicate concealed flattery, which differently satisfys him who gives it, & him who receives it. For this receives it as due to his merit, and the other gives it as a testimony of his justice and judgment.

Vanity makes a woman, tainted with it, so topful of herself, that she spilleth it upon the company.

The greatest part of a fine Lady's fancy is laid out in choosing her gown, as her discretion is chiefly employed in not paying for it.

She is faithful to the fashion, to which not only her opinion, but her senses are wholly resigned; so obsequious she is to it, that she would be ready to be reconciled even to virtue with all its faults, if she had her dancing master's word that it was practised at court.

A woman should not be proud of her fine gown, nor when she has less wit than her neighbours, comfort herself that she has more lace.

Some ladies put so much weight upon ornament, that if one could see into their hearts, it would be found, that even the thoughts of death are made less heavy to them, by the contemplation of their being laid out in state, and honourably attended to the grave.

A coquet is a sort of a beautiful desert in wax-work, that tempts the fool to an entertainment merely to baulk his appetite.

People at any time change a present uneasiness for any other condition tho' a worse.

It is wrong to lay out friendship too lavishly at first, since it will, like other things, be so much the sooner spent.

No enmity is so bitter as that of alienated friends, and no persecution so bad as that of apostates,

Persecutions for conscience sake have occasioned violent disorders, and vast effusion of blood; and to compel men by fire and faggot, to partake even of a delicious entertainment, is a savage sort of hospitality.

Enthusiasm is a kind of overweening and groundless persuasion of being the particular favourite of heaven.

Belief necessarily follows evidence, & where the evidence does not appear sufficient, a man cannot believe if he would.

Enquiries after hapiness, and the rules for attaining it, are not so necessary and useful to mankind as the art of consolation, and supporting ones self under affliction. The utmost we can hope for in this world is contentment; if we aim at any thing higher, we shall meet with nothing but grief and disappointment. A man should direct all his studies and endeavours at making himself easy now and happy hereafter.

Almighty God instituted religion for the sake of man, their frail power of acting could not farther be interesting to him, than to see his creatures increasing their own happiness mutually among themselves religion, therefore teaches and animates them to be assisting, forgiving, kind and merciful to one another,

The mediator of heavenly things produces admirable irradiations in the understanding.

The sight of a drunkard is a better sermon against that vice, than the best that ever was preached upon that subject.

Women should let every seven years make some alteration in them towards the graver side, and not be like the girls of fifty, who resolve to be always young, whatever Time with his iron teeth determines to the contrary.

A great

A great and glorious title to a coxcomb, serves but to render him the more despicable.

The greatest mark of an extraordinary merit, is to find even those that envy it, praise it.

Wit cannot play long upon a good natur'd person.

While cowardice and fear keeps us honest and loyal, our virtue gets the honour of it.

Government is an art, whereby a civil society of men is instituted and preserved upon the foundation of common right or interest.

When a state or government is embarrassed and troubled, it is more easy to raise the common people to a factious mutiny, than to draw them to a loyalty.

But all magistrates, officers, commanders, heads, and rulers, in what profession soever, both in church and state, should be chosen according to their abilities, wisdom, courage, piety, justice, honesty, and loyalty, and then they will mind the public good more than their particular interest.

It is a great matter in a state or kingdom, to take care of the education of youth, to breed them so that they may know first how to obey, and then how to command, and order affairs wisely.

If a captain has only deserved to be advanced for exposing himself in Parliament, the nation would have no great loss in the King's letting alone such preferment.

Ceremony is nothing in itself, and yet doth every thing; for without *ceremony* there would be no distinction either in church or state.

The confession of our weakness, and that of another's better sense, is generally both contained in the taking advice; which is seldom taken for that reason.

One gives nothing so liberally as counsel.

Every body complains of his want of memory, but few or none of their want of judgement.

The true way to be deceived is to fancy you have more

more cunning than another.

Use every man after his deserts, and who shall escape whipping.

A kind look or a word from a superior is strangely charming, and insensibly steals mens hearts from them,

Some people will abundantly thank you for one piece of kindness, to put you in mind of bestowing another.

In cases of robberies and murders, it is better to be severe than merciful; for the hanging of a few, will save the lives and purses of many.

We tarnish the splendor of the greatest actions; when we make the tedious panegyric of them ourselves.

A soldier makes a better figure dead, in the field of battle, than alive, and safe in flight.

A reformed drunkard should never be left in a cellar.

An old sinner's continency is much like a gamester's forswearing play, when he has lost all his money.

Women, in London, are like rich silks, they are out of fashion a great while before they wear out.

Honesty coupled to beauty, is to have honey and sauce to sugar.

When a gentleman speaks coarsely, he has dress'd himself clean to no purpose.

Gaming is an amusement but to those who want conversation.

Zeno hearing a young man speak too freely, said, For this reason we have two ears and but one tongue, because we should hear much and speak little.

A Lady is apt to think a man speaks so much reason whilst he is commending her, that she has much ado to believe him in the wrong when he is making love to her.

A Queen, if she lay with her groom, would expect

pect a mark of his kindness from him, though it were but his curry comb.

A blush, which was formerly accounted the colour of virtue, is now looked upon as worse manners than those things which ought to occasion it.

The great Prince of Conde being shew'd some libels against him, in which he was made to say and do things he knew nothing of; 'These fellows,' said he, make me talk and act as they would do in 'my place.'

In writing sometimes our thoughts are best, as the first squeezing of the grapes makes the finest and richest wine.

As it is the character of a great wit to express much in a few words, so it is of a little wit to talk much to little purpose.

Virtue loses itself in interest, as rivers are lost in the sea.

We easily forget our faults, when they are known to no-body but ourselves.

Sir William Temple ask'd the grand pensionary De Witt, how he was able to transact so many various and intricate affairs so clearly, expeditiously, and successfully? The pensionary reply'd, I will tell you Sir William, I have one rule that carries me through all, *I do but one thing at once.*

We have so good an opinion of ourselves, that they tell us no news who speak well of us.

How easily we forgive those that injure others, and how unwillingly those that injure us

A fool, like a coward, is more to be fear'd behind a man's back, than a witty man: for as a coward is more bloody than a brave man, a fool is more malicious than a man of wit

A gamester, the greater master he is in his art, the worse man he is.

A covetous rich man may be said to freeze before the fire; to be a mere dog in a wheel, that toils to roast meat for other men's eating.

EPIGRAMS.

On MILTON. By Mr Dryden.

THREE poets, in three distant ages born,
Greece, Italy, and England did adorn;
 The first in loftiness of thought surpass;
 The next in Majesty; in both the last.
 The force of nature could no farther go;
 To make a third she join'd the former two.

To a Lady who was against the Quaker's Bill.

AT quakers, dear *Eusebia*, why so wroth?
 Just the same principles direct you both:
 Just the same practice, (and you'll ne'er forsake it)
 Never to give the thing, but let us take it.

On MAIDS.

MOST maids resemble *Eve*, now in their lives,
 Who are no sooner women, but they're wives,

On Quin's comparing Garrick to Whitefield, and saying, that the people that are madding it after him, would return to the Old Church (meaning himself.)

By G—ck.

POPE Quin, who damns all churches but his own,
 Complains that heresy misleads the town,
 That *Whitefield Garrick*, does corrupt the age,
 And taints the sound religion of the stage.

— Thou great infallible! forbear to roar;

Thy balls and errors are rever'd no more:

Where doctrines meet with gen'ral approbation,

It is not Heresy but Reformation,

SUSANNAH

S U S A N N A H *and the two Eldrs.* By Mr.
C O B B.

W H E N fair *Susannah*, in a cool retreat
Of shady arbours, shunn'd the sultry heat,
Two wanton lechers to her garden came,
And, rushing furious, seiz'd the trembling dame.
What female strength could do, her arms perform,
And guarded well the fort they strove to storm,
The story's antient, and (if rightly told)
Young was the Lady, but the lovers old.
Had the reverse been true! had authors sung,
How that the dame was old, the lovers young,
If she had then the blooming pair deny'd,
With temping youth and vigour on their side,
Lord! how the story would have shock'd my creed!
For that had been a miracle indeed.

M Y sledge and hammer lie reclin'd,
My bellows too have lost their wind;
My fire's extinct, my forge decay'd,
And in the dust my vice is laid;
My coal is spent, my iron's gone,
My nails are drove, my work is done,
My-dryed corpse lies here at rest,
My soul, smook like, is soaring to be blest.

On the late Lord H——y. By the late E. of C——d.

N A T U R E, whilst *He*——y's clay was blending,
Uncertain what the thing would end in,
Whether a female, or a male,
A Pin dropt in, and turn'd the scale.

On Giles Jacob, the poet. By the late Dr Sewell.

P A R E N T of dulness! genuine son of night!
Total eclipse! without one ray of light:
Born when dull midnight bells for sun'rals chime,
Just at the closing of the bellman's rhyme.

The

The Scotch weather wife.

Scottland thy weather's like a modish wife;
 Thy winds and rains maintain perpetual strife;
 So termagant, a while, her thunder hies:
 And when she can no longer scold — she cries.

While hunters attending the Archbishop's door,
 Accosted each other with *cheat, bitch, & whore*.
 I noted the drabs, and considering the place,
 Concluded 'twas plain that they wanted *his Grace*.

By Dean Swift.

AS Thomas was cudgell'd one day by his wife,
 He took to his heels and ran for his life,
 Tom's three dearest friend's came in by the squabble,
 And skreen'd him at once from the shrew & rabble
 Then ventur'd to give him some wholesome advice;
 But Tom is a fellow of humour so nice,
 Too proud to take counsel, too wise to take warning
 He sent to all three a challenge next morning;
 He fought with all three, thrice ventur'd his life,
 Then went home again and was thresh'd by his wife.

On one Humphry Briggs, who had three wives.

Here lies Sarah, Mray, and Elizabeth Briggs,
 And Humphry their husband who humm'd all
 their giggles.

On a company of bad dancers to good music. By Mr. Budgell.

How ill the motion with the music suits!
 So Orpheus fiddled, and so danc'd the brutes.

On Ben Johnson's bust set up in Westminster Abby, with the buttons on the wrong side of his coat. By the late Reverend Mr Samuel Wesley.

O Rare Ben Johnson! What, a turn coat grown?
 Thou ne'er wert such, 'till thou wert clad in stone
 When

When time thy coat, thy only coat impairs,
 Thou'lt find a patron in a hundred years;
 Then let not this mistake disturb thy sp'rit
 Another age shall set thy buttons right.

The Lover's LEGACY.

UNhappy Strephon, dead and cold,
 His heart was from his bosom rent,
 Embalm'd, and in a box of gold,
 To his beloved Kitty sent.
 Some ladies might, perhaps have fainted,
 But Kitty smil'd upon the bauble;
 A pintushion said she, I wanted,
 Go put it on the dressing table.

The Lucky Man. By Mr. Wellsted.

I Owe, says Metius, much to Colon's care:
 Once only seen, he choose me for his heir:
 True Metius, hence your fortune takes the rise,
 His heir you were not, had he seen you twice.

*To Mr T——d, on his complimenting Mr F——de
 on his Poetry.*

F——de writes well, you say; suppose it true,
 You pawn your word for him;—he'll vouch
 for you;

So two poor knaves, when once their credit fail,
 To cheat the world become each other's bail,

On a handsome woman, with a fine voice, but very covetous and proud.

SO bright is thy beauty, so charming thy song,
 Ashad drawn both the beasts, and their Orpheus
 But such is thy avarice, and such is thy pride, (along,
 That the beasts must have starv'd, and the poet have
 dy'd K Or

On a Papist's praying to the statue of a saint. From Buchanan.

WHen you before an image kneeling down,
Cry with grave face, *Our Father*, to the stone;
Forgive me if I say you seem to me,
More senseless than the thing to which you pray;
As you yourself by this expression own,
For he's a block, whose father is—a stone.

To the PAPISTS and QUAKERS.

THEy in an unknown tongue their prayer's do say
Ye in an unknown sense your prayer's convey,
Between ye both this difference must ensue,
Fools understand not them, nor wise men you.

VENUS mistaken. By Mr Prior

WHen Chloe's picture was to Venus shown;
Surpriz'd, the goddess took it for her own:
And what said she, does this bold painter mean?
When was I bathing thus, and naked seen?
Pleas'd Cupid heard, and check'd his mother's pride
And who's blind now, mamma? the urchin cry'd.
'Tis Chloe's eye, and cheek, and lip, and breast,
Friend Howards genius fancy'd all the rest.

On a Lady who pretended to tell fortunes. By Mr Mottley.

SOME oracles of old, to cause more wonder,
Were, when pronounc'd, accompany'd with thunder,
But thy predictions come not in a storm, (der-
They are deliver'd by the brightest form:
If when you speak, Jove does not pierce the sky,
Yet still you've all his lightning in your eye.

EPITAPH.

EPI TAPH.

Here lies a lady, who, if not bely'd
Took wise St Paul's advice, and all things try'd
Nor stopt she here, but follow'd thro the rest,
And always stuck the longest to the best.

Epitaph on an unknown Person.

Without a name, for ever senseless dumb,
Dust, ashes, nothing else, lies in this tomb,
Where'er I liv'd, or dy'd, it matters not,
To whom related, or by whom begot,
I was, but am not, ask no more of me,
It's all I am and all that you shall be,

*The disappointed Husband.**Mulieri ne crede, ne mortuae quidem.*

A Scolding wife so long a sleep possess'd,
Her spouse presum'd her soul was now at rest.
Sable was call'd to hang the room in black;
And all their cheer was sugar rolls and sack,
Two mourning stiffs stood centry at the door;
And silence reing'd, who ne'er was there before,
The cloaks, and tears, and handkerchiefs prepar'd,
They march'd in woeful pomp to Abchurch yard;
When see of narrow streets what mischiefs come!
The very dead can't pass in quiet home;
By some rude jolt the coffin lid was broke,
And Madam from her dream of death awoke,
Now all was spoil'd; the undertaker's pay,
Sour faces, cakes, and wine, quite thrown away,
But some years after, when the former scene
Was acted, and the coffin nail'd again,
The tender husband took especial care,
To keep the passage from disturbance clear;
Charging the bearers that they tread aright,
Nor put his dear in such another fright.

AMong the fair that Hyde Park Cirrus grace,
 Canidia seeks admirers of her face;
 In vain her airs, her wanton arts she tries,
 Among those beauties that engage all eyes;
 Bright rays like diamonds, they around 'em fling.
 Whilst she is but the cypher of the ring.

*To CHLOE. From Martial, Book III. Epig liii.
 By Mr. Mottley.*

THY eyes and eye-brows I could spare;
 Nor for thy nose do I much care:
 I could dispence too with thy teeth;
 And with thy lips, and with thy breath,
 And with thy breast and with thy belly,
 And with that which I won't tell ye;
 And, to be short—hark, in thy ear,
 Faith I could spare you all my dear.

Epitaph on a talkative old Maid.

BEneath this silent stone is laid
 A noisy antiquated maid,
 Who, from her cradle, talk'd till death,
 And ne'er before was out of breath,
 Whither she's gone we cannot tell,
 For if she talks not she's in hell;
 If she's in heaven, she's there unblest
 Because she hates a place of rest.

THais, her teeth are black and naught,
 Lucania's white are grown?
 But what's the reason? These are bought,
 The other wears her own.

On Suicide. From Martial. By Mr Sewell.

WHen all the blandishments of life are gone,
 The coward creeps to death, the brave lives on.

A DIALOGUE between two very bad Poets. By Mr
Goncanen.

SAYS *Richard* to *Joe* thou'rt a very sad dog,
And thou can'st write verses no more than a log;
Says *Joseph* to *Dick*, prithee ring rhyme get hence,
Sure my verse at least, is as good as thy sense.
Was e'er such contest recorded in song?
The one's in the right and t'other's not wrong,

A SIMILE.

WOMEN to cards may be compar'd, we play
A round or two, when us'd, we throw away,
Take a fresh pack, nor is it worth our grieving,
Who cuts and shuffles with the dirty leaving.

On the late Sally Salisbury,

HERE flat on her back, but unactive at last,
Poor Sally lies under grim death,
Through the course of her vices she gallop'd so fast,
No wonder she's now out of breath,
To the goal of her pleasures she drove very hard,
But was tripp'd up ere half way she ran,
Tho' every one fancied her life was a yard,
Yet it prov'd to be less than a span.

To a Painter drawing a Lady's Picture. By Mr Dennis

HE who great Jove's artillery ap'd so well
By real thunder and true lightning sell;
How then durst thou, with equal danger try
To counterfeit the lightning of her eye?
Painter, desist, or soon th'event will prove,
That love's as jealous of his arms as Jove,

K 3

On

* *Savage.*

* *Mitchell.*

* *Salmon.*

On Mary Creswell.

UNderneath this stone lies one,
Whom many times I've lain upon,
I've kiss'd her sitting, standing, lying,
When she rises again have at her flying.

Epitaph on his Wife.

Here lies my poor wife without bed or blanket,
But dead as any door nail, God be thanked.

On an old Maid's Marriage.

Celia, a coquet in her prime,
The vainest ficklest thing alive,
Behold the strange effects of time!
Marries and doats at forty five,

Thus weathercocks, who for a while
Have turn'd about with every blast,
Grown old and destitute of oil,
Rust to a point, and fix at last.

Under the picture of a Beau.

This vain thing set up for a man,
But see what fate attends him,
The powdering barber first began,
The barber surgeon ends him.

On a Gentleman drinking the Health of an unkind Mistress.

WHY dost thou wish that she may live,
Whose living beauties make thee grieve,
Thou wouldst more wisely wish her kind,
That she may change her cruel mind,
Thy present wish but this can gain,
That she may live and thou complain.

Here

Here *Chloe* lies,
 Whole once bright eyes
 Set all the world on fire;
 And not to be
 Ungrateful, she
 Did all the world admire.

*To a young Gentleman who loved to drive hard with a
 sorry Pair of Horses, By Mr. Prior.*

THY nags, the leanest things alive,
 So very hard thou lov'st to drive,
 I heard thy anxious coachman say,
 It cost thee more in whips than hay.

On WEDLOCK.

IN marriage are two happy things allow'd,
 A wife in wedding sheets, and in a shroud:
 How can a marriage state then be accurs'd,
 Since the last day's as happy as the first?

On a hasty Marriage.

Marry'd! 'tis well! a mighty blessing!
 But poor's the joy no coin possessing:
 In ancient times, when folk did wed,
 'Twas to be one at *board* and *bed*;
 But hard's his case who can't afford
 His charmer either *bed* or *board*.

On Timothy Mum, a Tapster.

Kere *Tim* the tapster lies, who drew good beer,
 But now, drawn to his end, he *draws* no more;
 Yes, still he draws from every friend a tear,
Water he *draws*, who *drew* good beer before.
Against

A Declaration of LOVE.

YOU I love, nor think I joke;
 More than ivy does the oak;
 More than fishes do the flood;
 More than savage beasts the wood;
 More than merchants do their gain;
 More than misers to complain;
 More than widows do their weeds;
 More than friars do their beads;
 More than *Cynthia* to be prais'd;
 More than courtiers to be rais'd;
 More than brides the wedding night;
 More than soldiers do a fight;
 More than lawyers do the bar;
 More than prentice boys a fair;
 More than toppers t'other bottle;
 More than women tittle tattle;
 More than rakes a willing Lady;
 More than *Nancy* does her baby;
 More than jaylors do a fee;
 More than all things I love thee.

A Marriage Certificate. by Dean Swift.

UNDER this hedge, in stormy weather,
 I join'd this ^awhore and rogue together;
 And none but him who made the thunder,
 Can put this whore and rogue asunder,

Liars compar'd.

SUCH a liar is *Tom*, there's none can lie faster,
 Excepting his maid, and she'll lie with her master.

^a She was big with child when the ceremony pass'd.
 The

The Advantage of having two physicians.

ONE prompt physician like a sculler plies,
 And all his art, and all his skill applies:
 But two physicians, like a pair of oars,
 Convey you soonest to the *Stygian* shores.

MARRIAGE.

WERE I, who am not, of the *Romish* tribe
 The number of their sacraments to fix,
 I speak sincerely, without fee, or bribe,
 Instead of seven there should be but six,
 All men of sense tautology disclaim,
 Marriage and penance always were the same.

By. W. WALSH, Esqr.

CHICE, new married, looks at men no more;
 Why then 'tis plain for what she look'd before.

*Inscription for a Fountain, adorn'd with Queen Anne's
 and the late Duke of Marlborough's images, and the
 chief Rivers of the World round the work, By Mr
 Prior.*

YE active streams; where-e're your waters flow,
 Let distant climes, and farthest nations know,
 What ye from *Tames* and *Danube* have been taught,
 How *Anne* commanded, and how *Marlbro'* fought.

Against an Atheist.

WHILST in his double elbow chair
 Young *Alcedor* does loll and swear,
 No wonder, if a wretch like me
 Are objects of his raillery:
 Why should not I a blockhead seem
 To one that does his God blaspheme?
 But no man thinks (whate're he saith)
 His words are articles of faith,

The

The Numscull.

You beat your pate, and fancy wit will come;
 Knock as you please, there's nobody at home.

*On the Countess of Dorchester, Mistress to king James
 the Second Written in 1680. By the Earl of Dorset.*

Tell me, *Dorinda* why so gay,
 With such embroid'ry, fringe and lace?
 Can any dresses find a way,
 To stop th' approaches of decay,
 And mend a ruin'd face?

Wilt thou still sparkle in the box,
 And ogle in the ring?
 Can'st thou forget thy age and pox?
 Can all that shines on shells and rocks
 Make thee a fine young thing!

So have I seen in larder dark,
 Of veal a lucid loin,
 Replete with many a brilliant spark,
 (As wise philosophers remark)
 At once both stink and shine.

On the same. By the Earl of Dorset.

Proud with the spoils of royal cully,
 With false pretence to wit and parts,
 She swaggers like a batter'd bully,
 To try the tempers of mens hearts.
 Tho' she appears as glittering fine,
 As gems, brocade, and paint can make her,
 She ne'er can win a breast like mine;
 The devil and Sir * *David* take her.

* *Sir David Collier, late Earl of Portmore.*

On

*On a silly talkative Lady, at the Hot Well at Bristol.
By the Hon. T. H. Esqr.:*

FAm'd I dream, by whose retentive force we're taught
Such various & such wond'rous cures are wrought
Stop but the gleet in *Sacharissa's* tongue,
Thy praises shall by *Phœbus* self be sung;
Admire not, reader, that I call it so,
Since great the *running*, and from *weakness* too.

On SNUFF.

JOVE once resolv'd the females to degrade,
To propagate their sex without their aid;
His brain conceiv'd, and soon the pangs and throes
He felt, nor cou'd th' unnatural birth disclose:
At last, when try'd, no remedy would do,
The God took *snuff*, and out the Goddess flew.

AH, me! quoth *Betty*, who could e're have thought,
Such mischief could arise almost from nought?
Which had she known e're she began to swell,
Each yard of pleasure she'd have made an ell.

*A translation in modern English of Mr P—————'
Imitation of Chancer.*

AN *Oxford* scholar made a goose his prize,
And hid it where the garb invests the thighs:
Too weak the buttons prov'd, the goose too strong;
And burst its jail as Ladies pass along;
The bill came boling forth, a ruddy sight,
The neck came after, long, and round and white;
The creature cackling pertly rais'd its head,
The sad look'd foolish and the women fled.
"O *Jesu* sister *Mall*, said wanton miss,
"Is this the thing wherewith they us'd to p——?"

"Tis

" 'Tis better far to feed on coals and chalk,
 " Than trust to faithless men whose tail can tail.
 Thus *Chauce*, whilom did the fair advise,
 That maids should never sport but with the wife.
 With sly conceit, the bard his story told
 Then left his moral, worth its weight in gold;
 " *Pardie*, Miss *Betty*, thou didst reason well:
 " They bear the goose about that love to tell.

Epitaph on Mr FENTON. By Mr Pope.

THIS modest stone, which few vain marbles can,
 May truly say, — Here lies an honest man!
 A poet bless'd beyond a poet's fate,
 Whom heaven kept sacred from the proud and great:
 Foe to loud praise, and friend to learned ease,
 Content with science in the vale of peace,
 Calmly he look'd on either life, and here
 Saw nothing to regret, nor there to fear:
 From nature's temperate feast rose satisfy'd;
 Thank'd heaven that he had liv'd and that he dy'd.

By Ambrose Philips, Esqr :

GEORGE came to the crown without striking a
 blow:
 Ah, quoth the *Pretender*, would I could do so.



F I N I S.